

MEMOIRS
OF
SIR ROGER DE CLARENDON,
THE NATURAL SON OF
Edward Prince of Wales,
COMMONLY CALLED
THE BLACK PRINCE;
WITH
ANECDOTES OF MANY OTHER EMINENT PERSONS
OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

By CLARA REEVE.

In every work regard the writer's end,
Since none can compass more than they intend;
And if the means are just, the purpose true,
Applause in spite of trivial faults is due.
Neglect the rules each verbal critic lays,
For not to know some trifles is a praise. POPE.

VOL. III.



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MEMOIRS

SIR ROGER DE CLARENDOON

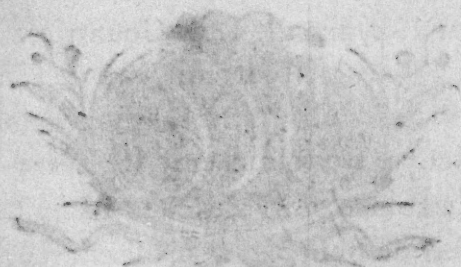
Edward Prince of Wales

THE LIFE OF

BY THE REV. J. H. CLARKE

BY CLARA REYNOLDS

VOL. II.



MEMOIRS

OF

SIR ROGER DE CLARENDON.

WE took our course through Bretagne: I had letters of credence to the duke, and was graciously received and entertained. It was not my design to stay there long; so, after paying my respects, I went on through the Duchy, through part of Normandy, and intended to go through Flanders, and the Low Countries. Being benighted near Montreuil, we fell into a company of these adventurers, who examined us very strictly: we told them, we were servants to the Prince of Wales and Aquitaine, and were now on business for his service. We could not have mentioned a name so much be-

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loved and respected by them; most of them were born subjects to him or the king, and had vowed never to fight against him. They conducted us to an old castle, which had been forsaken by its inhabitants during the late wars, and which they made their head quarters: here we were received and entertained as guests of consequence, with good and choice fare, and the best of wines. They gave us excellent lodgings, and insisted upon our spending another evening with them.

"We were sensible of their courtesy and hospitality, and also that there would be some danger in seeming to slight their kindness to us; so we consented, reluctantly, to spend another night there.

"The next morning they went out early, leaving orders to the servants to pay us the same respect as themselves, and promising to be at home at dinner. Mr. Palmer and I amused ourselves with walking over the castle; but we stationed our servant as a sentinel, to give us notice of their return.

"We rambled over the rooms on the two first stories, and were ascending a stair-case that led to the third, when we met with a coarse looking woman, who accosted us: "Who be you?

"What make you come here?" "We are guests
 "of the gentlemen of this castle; they permit-
 "ted us to go over it." "They did not give
 "you leave to come here. The ladies live
 "here, and nobody may come where they be."
 "I ask pardon; we do not mean to intrude
 "farther. The ladies' apartments are sacred:
 "the wives of the gentlemen live here. Do
 "they never come down to the first rooms?"
 "I said, the ladies live here—I did not say
 "their wives. They take them prisoners when
 "they fight, and bring them here; then they
 "cast lots for them, and every man has one
 "for his own love. They have folks to wait
 "upon them, and may live very happy, if it
 "be not their own fault."—"But are they
 "happy?"—"Yes, most of them, after a
 "time. There is one silly fool, that came
 "here three weeks ago, that do nothing but
 "cry, cry, cry! I tell her to be patient, and
 "eat her victuals, and all will be well." "May
 "we not see her, perhaps we might comfort
 "her!"—"No, no; I know my duty better
 "than so: we never let any man come here
 "but our masters. You please to go down
 "stairs, gentlemen."

"We did not dispute her orders; we went
 down

down all the stairs, and walked in the court. The castle was a quadrangle; this court was the centre. At the corners were four turrets, each had a cupola at the top: at every corner was a stair-case, which opened into a gallery which went round, and had a door to every separate apartment. Some of the rooms had the remains of rich furniture, others were stripped by the hand of war, or of robbery. It had, upon the whole, a gloomy appearance; it excited many moral reflexions in Palmer and me; but my thoughts were chiefly engaged by the unhappy woman, who did nothing but fast and weep. "Perhaps," said I, "it is some child, torn from her parents, or some wife from her husband. She is the devoted victim of some human brute, who riots on the wretched body, and cares not whether the mind is miserable. It would be a meritorious action to rescue her from these spoilers, and perhaps it might not be difficult to effect it."

"It would be dangerous to attempt it," said Palmer; "and with respect to our hosts, who have treated us handsomely, it would be a violation of all the laws of hospitality."—"Not to those who are restrained by no laws
" of

“ of any kind ; and as to danger, it ought
 “ rather to excite us to great and generous
 “ actions. Suppose we try another stair-case
 “ —this turret offers one. Let us try whether
 “ we can discover this person—I will not be
 “ fool hardy, but proceed with caution.”—“ I
 “ do not approve it, sir.”—“ Then stay here,
 “ and be my centinel, I will soon return.”
 Palmer remonstrated, but I was obstinate ; he
 followed me up the first flight of stairs, and I pre-
 vailed on him to stay there : I ascended a se-
 cond, and a third ; I entered the gallery, and
 walked softly along it—I passed several doors,
 and heard talking, singing, cries of children, and
 gabbling of nurses : I saw a door half open—
 all was silent in that room—I approached it,
 and looked into it : I saw a beautiful young
 woman sitting by a table, her head leaned upon
 her hand ; she shed tears incessantly, which
 rolled down her cheeks, and formed two ponds
 on the table. On a sudden she dropped down
 on her knees, and prayed fervently—I said
 Amen to her petitions. She rose up, and I then
 spoke softly—“ Take courage, my dear lady,
 “ heaven hears your prayers, and sends me to
 “ offer you my best services.”—“ Who are
 “ you ? ”—“ A stranger, who came here by
 “ accident,

"accident, but, perhaps, providentially for you."
 "God grant it, but how, I know not."—"Do
 "you wish to escape from this castle?"—
 "It is my first wish and prayer."—"Can you
 "get out of this prison?"—"Alas! my de-
 "spair has prevented my attempting it hither-
 "to."—"One ought never to despair, it hin-
 "ders us from using the means heaven gives
 "us for our deliverance."—"That is true; I
 "thank you for reminding me of it."—"I
 "want to ask you a thousand questions, but I
 "fear being interrupted."—"I believe we are
 "safe just now; my female tormentor has just
 "left me, and will not return again till she
 "brings my dinner: her masters are gone
 "out, as she tells me, till the same time. I
 "am the only daughter of the Baron of Cou-
 "tray, and the darling of both my parents:
 "their castle is but a few miles from hence.
 "The usurpers of this castle robbed and
 "plundered that of my father three months
 "since; they left them and their servants
 "bound, and brought away their treasures, a
 "great booty. One of them cast his savage
 "eyes upon me, and asked the rest to let me
 "be a part of his booty: they readily con-
 "sented, and I was carried away from my fa-
 "ther's

"ther's house, and brought hither as a cap-
 "tive, to Bernard de la Salle, for so is my ty-
 "rant called. He has tried all ways to subdue
 "me, and bring me to his terms, but in vain;
 "and would ere now have had recourse to
 "violence, but that I have threatened him that
 "I will not survive the act of violation. He
 "now uses fair words, and offers to marry me
 "honourably; but I hate and detest him;
 "neither do I trust to his flattering speeches,
 "but would give my life to escape him. He
 "has fixed a day, on the which he swears I
 "shall be his, by fair or foul means, and bids
 "me take my choice: there are but five days
 "remaining, till the arrival of that fatal one.
 "I despaired of any means of avoiding him—
 "but your presence revives my hopes."—
 "Lady, these moments are precious; follow
 "me to the stair-case by which I came hither;
 "perhaps you are a stranger to it." She came
 with me; we walked softly through the gallery
 where Palmer stood ready to meet me.—"Do
 you know this way," said I?—"No, sir, the
 "door here was always fastened till now."—
 "Then observe me: we go hence to-morrow;
 "when the masters go forth, we go with
 "them: if you can get away soon after, I will

"wait for you, wherever you shall appoint."—
 "God reward you, sir: on this side the castle
 "there are three roads that meet; if you will
 "wait near that place, I will endeavour to meet
 "you, if God permits me. I shall wish and
 "pray for your success; my parents will bless
 "and pray for you, and I will be your beadle-
 "woman to the end of my life. Hark! I hear
 "a door open—I must return to my chamber
 "directly. Heaven bless you!"—"Farewell,
 "lady!—I will pray for you, and for myself
 "also." She went softly back to her apart-
 ment. I put a small stick into the bolt of the
 door, to prevent its being fastened; I then went
 down stairs with Palmer, and told him all that
 had passed.

"The gentlemen returned to dinner—they en-
 tertained us handsomely. While we were
 drinking our wine afterwards, he who was
 called the general, proposed to us to enter into
 their company; he expatiated on their happi-
 ness and independence, and enlarged upon the
 blessings of liberty. Mr. Palmer replied to
 him: "Liberty is a word that is used to so
 "many different purposes, that it requires much
 "explanation and application; to be rightly
 "enjoyed, it must submit to limitation. There
 "is

" is a savage and barbarous liberty, which gives
 " every man a right to encroach upon his
 " neighbour; such is that of the most uncivi-
 " lized nations; it is a state of anarchy and
 " confusion, in which every thing is decided
 " by strength and courage. No man that has
 " lived in a civilized country, could wish to be
 " removed into such a wild one as I have de-
 " scribed. On the other hand, the extreme of
 " despotism, where no man is assured of his life
 " or property, is equally to be shunned and de-
 " precated: in a limited monarchy, these two
 " extremes are avoided; in a well-regulated state,
 " there is a just and beautiful subordination, in
 " which all the different degrees are aiding
 " and assisting to each other, and none are in-
 " dependent of the state. As in the natural
 " body, *the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no*
 " *need of thee; nor the head to the feet, I have*
 " *no need of you;* so, in a well-governed state,
 " each member has need of the others, and all
 " are governed by one head, for the good of
 " the whole body.

" I should choose to put myself under the
 " protection of the king and the laws, rather
 " than frame for myself an independence of
 " them, which could only be temporary, and
 " must

" must always be in danger of being over-
 " thrown; which must be hated and feared, as
 " being obnoxious to society. Excuse me,
 " gentlemen, for speaking thus plainly; you
 " have kindly wished us to partake of your
 " blessings; in return, I wish you to share our's,
 " and to avoid the dangers that hang over
 " you."

" You have spoken plainly," said the Gene-
 ral; " but as you seem to mean well, I will
 " excuse you: but will you make no allowance
 " for soldiers, who have fought bravely, and
 " served their chieftain faithfully for many
 " years? yet, as soon as the contending parties
 " have made a peace for their own advantage,
 " they are discarded, and left to starve, or to
 " beg for their bread: we cut our's with our
 " swords, and think it more honest to do so.
 " What were your heroes of old but soldiers of
 " fortune? What were the first inhabitants of
 " Rome, their Romulus and Remus? yet they
 " were the founders of the first city in the
 " world, and their descendants became in time,
 " the conquerors and lords of it."

" As you have answered me," said Palmer,
 " I presume you will hear my reply. I will take
 " your own ground; no sooner had the Romans
 " acquired

“ acquired property, than they took the best
 “ means to secure it. Romulus composed a re-
 “ gular form of government, he chose a senate,
 “ which enacted laws by which the people were
 “ governed; he reserved to himself the power of
 “ putting these laws into execution, and enforc-
 “ ing them by punishing those who broke them.
 “ What is a king without power to do this? he
 “ is only a cypher of state. I would observe,
 “ likewise, that in all states most power is
 “ lodged in the hands of people of property,
 “ because having the most to lose, they will be
 “ most careful to enforce the laws ordained
 “ for the preservation of it. Thus, sir, the
 “ Romans were divided into three orders, ac-
 “ cording to the property they possessed, Pa-
 “ tricians, Equites, and Plebeians: these were
 “ again sub-divided by the offices they served in
 “ the state and in the army. As you cited the
 “ example of the Romans, I have also appeal-
 “ ed to their regulations, which took place
 “ during the life of Romulus; and from hence
 “ I infer, that a regular form of government
 “ is preferable to a state of equality.” The
 lieutenant-general then spoke—“ Enough, and
 “ too much of this learned gabble, what signi-
 “ fies how the Romans lived or died? Every
 “ man

“man for himself, I say, and that’s every thing ;
 “if these men despise our way of life, we can
 “do the same by their’s. They are not obliged
 “to be of our society: The general has done
 “them honour enough by the offer: They re-
 “fuse it, so let them; they are our guests to-
 “day, and to-morrow they leave us. Let us
 “part friends; drink your glass, brother, and
 “leave prating.”—I then spoke: “You are
 “right, sir, this is not the time or place for
 “disputation. We thank you for your kind-
 “ness and hospitality, and will take leave of
 “you to-morrow morning.”

“The glass went round, and no more was said;
 I was afraid that Palmer’s plain speaking would
 give offence, and we might incur some danger ;
 he took the hint, and confined his tongue with-
 in the limits of common-place subjects. The
 day passed away, the evening likewise, when
 we retired to rest. Palmer was full of fears for
 the enterprize I had undertaken—I composed
 him, by leaving the event upon the lady’s com-
 ing to meet us.

“We rose early in the morning, and ordered
 our servant to get the horses ready, and wait
 our orders. We walked in the court before
 the castle; the general came to us alone. He
 took

took a hand of each of us: "I thank you, gentlemen, for your company. I thank you, sir, for your good counsel. My heart felt the truth of it, though I dared not acknowledge it. I wish to quit this vagrant life, and to put myself into the protection of a well-governed state. At present it is not in my power, but I flatter myself that time will come. I cannot leave my companions till they get into more creditable employment; when this happens, I will take another course for myself. I wished to speak to you alone before you leave us; this moment is favourable to me."—We thanked him for his generous treatment of us, and expressed much satisfaction at his sentiments, and his confidence in us.—"We have lost one of our servants," said he, "the man whom we left with orders to go over the castle with you, has run away from us." I replied, "there was no man went with us, we were alone."—"How then did you find your way over it?"—"We wandered about as chance directed. Some rooms were locked up; when we were stopped in one place, we tried another staircase."—"How high did you go?"—"We went up two stories, and were ascending to
 "a third.

“a third. There we met a woman, who told
 “us those were the ladies’ apartments, and no
 “men were admitted there. We answered,
 “that the ladies’ apartments were sacred, and
 “we returned back the same way we came.”

“I have no doubt, gentlemen, of your honour and politeness. Alas ! Love is the
 “bane of our society, it creates a thousand
 “cares and jealousies. Men of our profession
 “should renounce it; but it will not be.
 “When I think of some acts of violence committed by some of my companions, I am
 “stung with grief and remorse. This fellow,
 “that has left us, has carried with him a girl
 “whom he loved, and who belonged to another man; this other is clamorous and discontented. I can say no more, I see some of
 “my companions coming to us. Heaven
 “bless you, gentlemen, remember me in your
 “prayers!”—We returned his benedictions, and met the companions. We breakfasted with them, and soon after we ordered our horses; they did the same, and we set out directly. We observed the way they took, and resolved to take the contrary.—As soon as they were out of sight we came back; we went round the castle, and took the road which the lady had pointed out to us.

We

"We walked our horses to and fro, like true knights errant, in search of adventures. Palmer made wise observations at my expence. I told him, that I was resolved to devote this day to the service of the lady; that I had hopes of her escape, from a circumstance that he had not remarked. The fugitive from the castle had been appointed to shew us round it; he was probably master of the keys of all the apartments. The doors of that turret were left open, otherwise we could not have ascended that stair-case. The door into the gallery that led to the lady's apartment was likewise open. The fugitive had probably escaped that way; it would favour the escape of our friend likewise.

"This circumstance determined me to wait one day. If she came not by the time the sun was declining to the west, I would go to the next town or village and rest there.

"While we were contending the point, a figure came towards us drest like a pilgrim, a loose gown hung over the body, with a cross upon the breast. A large hat, that hung down to its shoulder, and a long stick that supported it. We could not discern the face till it drew near, and then it spoke. "Heaven save you, "gentlemen, and reward your goodness! I
" am

"am Agatha de Coutray, your poor pilgrim
 "and servant." We welcomed her, and I made
 my servant lift her upon my horse, and set her
 before me. Palmer desired us to lose no time,
 lest we should be pursued and overtaken.

"We jogged on, and Agatha directed us
 which road to take.—The way seemed to me
 much longer than she had described it, and we
 did not reach the castle of Coutray till near sun-
 set.—We knocked at the outward gate, and
 were strictly examined before we were ad-
 mitted. I bade the servant tell his master, that
 we brought tidings of his daughter.

"It was agreed that Mr. Palmer should pre-
 pare the parents to receive their lost child with
 composure of mind. He told them the cir-
 cumstances that had brought us acquainted with
 her, and gave me all the honour of her deliver-
 ance, which in truth belonged to me rather than
 him. He concluded by telling them she was on
 the way to their castle. They were overjoyed,
 and impatient to behold their Agatha.

"As soon as he thought them sufficiently pre-
 pared, he introduced us. I led Agatha to her
 parents, who folded her in their arms, thanking
 heaven, and blessing me alternately. Agatha
 added to Mr. Palmer's relation, that she rose at
 the

the first dawn of day, and wandered about her side of the castle; she found all the doors open, which strengthened her hopes of escaping. She went into a room which was a kind of wardrobe; there were all kinds of apparel for both sexes in great quantities. She chose the pilgrim's dress as the best disguise for her, and carried it into the lower room in the turret we shewed her, and laid it ready to put on the moment she should escape, and then returned to her apartment, and waited till the woman should come to bring her breakfast. As soon as she left her, Agatha went to the turret with a palpitating heart, and trembling steps; she dressed herself, and waited the departure of the gentlemen. She heard the trampling of the horses in the court, and soon after, all was silent.

"She recommended herself to the protection of the Blessed Virgin, and then opened the outward door, and went into the fields.

"It was some time before she got to the high road; but at length heaven conducted her safely to her deliverers. She was eloquent in my praise, and her own gratitude was shewn by imploring blessings upon my head and that of my friend.

"The old Baron shewed his by his kindness
and

and hospitality.—After supper, he related the robbery of his castle, the loss of his money, plate, and jewels, his own and his wife's grief for the loss of their daughter. He had two sons who were in the service of their king; his two best servants were with them; he had sent others on different business, and was left in a defenceless state, or they would not have found it easy to force his castle.—He enquired after our families and situation. Palmer said, I was descended from one of the first families in England, and he had the honour to be my preceptor; that I travelled for improvement, and intended to see all the countries in Europe.—We were under the protection of the Prince of Wales and Aquitaine, and were ordered to meet him in London in the month of August.

“I wish,” said the Baron, “you belonged to this country, and our king. The Prince of Wales is a great man past doubt; but we have reason to call him the Black Prince, for he is the bane of France. Well, he is your prince and I will say no more.”—“He but obeys the commands of the king his father, and we in like manner obey him, and that from love rather than fear. He is as amiable to his friends, as dreadful to his enemies.”

“I have

"I have often heard so," said the Baron—"he is a great man certainly."—We told the Baron we should depart on the morrow. He urged our longer stay, and from motives of kindness. He feared we should be pursued by the free-booters; that they would be lurking probably near his castle, and we had better stay till the pursuit should be over.

"Mr. Palmer said, they had no reason to suppose that the lady was our companion, nor that we knew any thing of her.—The baron said, jealous men thought of every thing possible, and therefore Agatha's lover would suspect their intentions. At all events, it were best to tarry a few days with them. The baroness and her daughter joined their urgency, and prevailed on us to stay with them a few days.

"The longer I staid, the more reluctant I was to go. There was a kind of secret intelligence between me and the fair Agatha. I have no wish to conceal any thing from this company; she was the first woman for whom I sighed, and my heart still feels a painful remembrance of her.—Oh how shall I tell you the dreadful catastrophe!—Palmer wisely tore me away from her at that time. Some years after I visited the castle.—A servant told me, that three months

months after her return home, she was found in a vineyard belonging to the baron, her fair bosom pierced with a thousand wounds. She was warm and bleeding when the vine-dresser found her.

“ Upon her garment a label was fastened with this inscription :

Thus we treat Fugitives.

“ This left no room to doubt by whom she was assassinated. The baron and his lady were inconsolable for her loss, they devoted their time to grief; they erected a monument to her memory, and their only consolation was the hopes that they should soon be re-united to her for ever.

“ When I heard those particulars, I resolved not to see these unfortunate parents. I went weeping on my way, and reflecting on the evils of this earthly pilgrimage.

“ At the time above-mentioned, I pursued my journey through Flanders, from whence I sailed to England, and was in London a fortnight before the prince’s arrival there.

“ As soon as he came, I went to pay my duty to him, and was most graciously received. He presented me to the King and Queen, to the Dukes of Clarence and Lancaster. He also
in-

introduced me to the Lord Ingelram de Coucy, lately married to the Princess Isabella, the King's eldest daughter.

"The story of these princely lovers is worthy of your attention; but it would render my own too long. I will only briefly take notice of the principal circumstances. They loved each other many years, their correspondence was secret and silent. The noble lover, by his actions, strove to deserve her favour, and it was long before he suffered his pretensions to be known, and not till he was well assured of his lady's affections.—Her brothers opposed him, the queen declared against him, yet he persevered in his suit, and openly avowed it.—At length he took the courage to declare himself to the king; he told his story, and referred the decision to him only.

"The king was struck with the spirit and nobleness of his behaviour. After some pause, he said, "Sir Ingelram, you are one of my own knights, and no man living does more justice to your merits than myself. This is a business that demands some consideration, I must take a week to think upon, and decide it. In the mean time I am your master and your friend, so think of me always."

Lord

“ Lord Coucy bowed to the King.—“ I have
 “ ever found you so, my liege lord, and I rely
 “ upon your honour and justice. This week is
 “ the most important of my life, it will decide
 “ my fate.” “ You shall not be too serious,”
 said the king.—“ If I could subdue the pre-
 “ judices of others, as easily as I can govern
 “ my own, a less time would be sufficient
 “ to decide this point: but we must pay
 “ some respect to the public, and also to my
 “ own family. My wife has a mother’s right
 “ in her daughter, and there are many rela-
 “ tions of the damsel beside. I will decide as
 “ soon as possible, perhaps within the week;
 “ do not go from me too much discouraged,
 “ Coucy: hope for the best.”

“ Lord Coucy kneeled and kissed the king’s
 hand.—“ If my king bids me hope, I will bid
 “ defiance to despair.” He withdrew.—The
 king called his family about him, he proposed
 the marriage—he asked their opinions separate-
 ly, beginning at the youngest, and so through
 to the eldest, concluding with the queen.

“ Most of the royal family protested against
 the marriage; but Prince Edmond, Earl of
 Cambridge, favoured it, and the younger la-
 dies

dies seemed to be on the side of their sister.
 The king obliged all of them to give their rea-
 sons, and even to enlarge and explain them.
 When all of them had spoken, the king replied
 to them :

“ It seems to me, that pride and ambition
 “ have dictated your objections to this marri-
 “ age, rather than sound reason. Why should
 “ not a man of first-rate merit and nobility,
 “ aspire to marry a king’s daughter?—It is no
 “ new thing, nor is it without example in the
 “ annals of England. — Our own ancestor
 “ Geoffrey Plantagenet, Earl of Anjou, mar-
 “ ried Matilda, only daughter and heiress to
 “ Henry I. king of England. According to
 “ your system, the daughters of England must
 “ all marry sovereign princes, or be condemn-
 “ ed to perpetual celibacy.

“ I declare myself of a different opinion, and
 “ that it is better they should marry with the
 “ nobles of their own country, than with those
 “ of others, even though they should be called
 “ Princes. But you say our family will be
 “ too much increased. Alas ! how many royal
 “ houses have been extinct ! who can be sure
 “ that that of Plantagenet, now so numerous
 “ and

"and flourishing, may not one day be lost
 "and forgotten? *

"De Coucy is descended from an illustrious
 "family, he was born a baron of France, and
 "of England; he is still more exalted by
 "merit than by birth; handsome and accom-
 "plished, valiant and liberal, noble and vir-
 "tuous. If Isabel was the heiress of the
 "crown, she would not disgrace it by her
 "choice of Ingelram de Coucy. She loves
 "him, she permits him to tell me so, she
 "will marry him or no man.

"Three of my sons are married to women
 "born my subjects, why should not Isabel
 "marry a prince of her own country, rather
 "than a petty prince of a foreign stock, or
 "a younger brother of a royal house?—I ask
 "it of you, my sons, to lay aside your preju-
 "dices, and consent to this marriage."—The
 "princes, after some hesitation, answered, if it
 "was the king's will and pleasure, they had no
 "part but to obey.—He said he wished for a
 "cheerful consent. He then asked the queen for
 "her's, and said he had no doubt that she would

* It was extinct by the death of Edward Plantagenet, son of George Duke of Clarence, brother of King Edward IV.

comply with his wishes. She, seeing that the king was determined, said she had no will but his.

“ The next day the king sent for De Coucy, he told him of the consent of all the royal family, and the following week the marriage was celebrated.

“ De Coucy’s merit was in high and general estimation throughout the kingdom, of which there was at that time an indisputable proof. The commons of England assembled in Parliament, petitioned the king to confer some honours upon De Coucy, and to give him an establishment suitable to the king’s son-in-law. How great must his reputation have been, that all the honours he received were thought but the reward due to his merit; and at a time when England abounded in great men of every kind !

“ The king complied with the requests of his faithful commons; he created De Coucy Earl of Bedford, and made a suitable provision to support his rank in the kingdom.

“ To this nobleman the prince recommended me; he begged him to honour me with his countenance and protection, and that any fa-

your conferred upon me would be deemed an obligation to himself. The prince made but a short stay in England; he came only with a few attendants, and left his wife and family at Bourdeaux. Before he returned, he purchased an estate in Essex for me, and gave it me by an authentic deed. There were above five hundred acres of land about it, and he ordered the house to be re-built and furnished. It is the same that is now in the hands of Sir Nicholas Bassett; I have given him notice to quit it, and I hope, within a year, to carry my dearest Mabel thither; and I will settle it upon her and her heirs for ever.

"Do not put yourself or Sir Nicholas to any inconvenience," said Lady Calverly, "Mabel shall reside with me, till you can give her your company at your own house."

"I expect a call from the king, to attend him to Ireland, and I shall lose my influence with him if I stay behind; nothing but his commands shall separate me from the wife of my soul."—"But not your first love, I find, Sir Roger," said my lady.—"If you will believe me, Madam, it was her resemblance to the unfortunate Agatha that first

"struck my heart, and, like a barbed arrow
 "remained in the wound. I felt that she
 "was my fate from the first moment I be-
 "held her. I respect truth too much to deny
 "my first attachment; I hope and trust that
 "my dear wife will not love me the less for
 "it."—"No, indeed," said Mabel, "but the
 "more for your sincerity."—"I never doubt-
 "ed it; but we will postpone the remainder
 "of my history to another day, if you, ladies,
 "will permit me."

The ladies consented, and the gentlemen
 rode out, to try some young horses lately
 broken in. Sir John was curious in his breed-
 ing horses for himself and his friends; but he
 knew nothing of jockeyship, and left the care
 of them to his grooms. In the morning they
 used all kind of manly and gentleman-like ex-
 ercises. Sometimes they exercised the cross-
 bow, and shot at a mark, not with lady-like
 bows and arrows, but with the old English
 cross-bow, as much as a strong man could
 manage *. Running, leaping, and wrestling,
 were

* He had a bow bent in his hand,
 Made of a trusty tree;

An arrow of a cloth-yard long,

Up to the head drew he.

Ballad of Chevy-Chace.

were in those days esteemed useful to gentlemen, and promoters of bodily agility. Hawking and hunting were esteemed gentleman-like recreations. Xenophon recommends these exercises to Cyrus, calling them gifts of the gods, and exercised by heroes and princes. Exercises of the body promote circulation of the blood, making the mind light and cheerful, capable of cogitations of great and weighty business, and fit for affairs of government, and of assisting princes to guide the helm of state.

There is no mention of cards or dice in the exercises of gentlemen of old times, nor of swearing or drinking; nor of laying wagers upon every trifling argument. In short, there were many noble qualities required to make a gentleman, in those days, of which the self-created gentlemen of the eighteenth century have no idea nor comprehension. The evenings were devoted by the Calverly family to the continuation of Sir Roger de Clarendon's history, which he pursued in the following words:

“ After the departure of the prince, Palmer and I made an excursion to Clarendon, where
he

he always seemed abstracted and lost in thought ; he muttered ejaculations to the saints, and exalted to that number the soul of the departed lady of that place. Once, when I awakened him from a reverie, he said, " When your father is king of England, he will make you lord of Clarendon, and then you shall give me the hermitage, and there I will live and die."

" I promised to do all that he should require of me ; but, alas ! the performance was placed above my reach.

" From Clarendon we went to Winchester, and were most kindly received and entertained by Palmer's relations. From thence we journeyed through Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall ; through South Wales, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire, and so to London. I then paid a visit of love and duty to Sir Roger and Lady Morley. Henry was in raptures at seeing me. Roger received me with a courtier-like civility, but with a cold heart. My aunt was surprized at my stature and personal improvements : she expressed regard and friendship for me ; but she seemed to make comparisons between her eldest son and

me, that were not to his advantage. It was natural that she should give the preference to her own son, but she owed the same external justice to her second son, and also to me. Henry complained to me of this distinction; I invited him to go to the continent with me. He proposed it to his father, who gave consent; so we resolved to go over in March or April.

“ While we were making preparations for our departure, I received an order from the prince, to hold myself in readiness to attend him, for he should shortly have employment for me.

“ Hitherto the life and actions of the Black Prince, had been crowned with glory and honour, even envy and hatred dared not wag their tongues against him, but his enemies joined in celebrating his virtues. His expedition into Spain opened their mouths against him, and the consequences of it proved fatal to himself and his family. Yet were his motives great and generous, though they supported an object unworthy of his protection.

“ Don Pedro was by his birth the just and
lawful

lawful King of Castile and Leon, but by his barbarous and wicked actions he forfeited the love and esteem of his subjects, and of all mankind. By a series of barbarous actions he acquired the surname of the cruel, by which he is stigmatized to all posterity. King Alphonso, his father, left many natural children, all of whom he hated and persecuted, and three of them he put to death without any provocation. He was suspected of poisoning his Queen, Blanche of Bourbon, a beautiful and virtuous lady, and no more than twenty-five years of age. It is certain, that very soon after her death, he married Maria de Padilla, his concubine, and the malignant enemy of the unfortunate Blanche.

“King Alphonso had three sons by Leonora de Gusman, a lady of a noble family. Henry, whom his father created Count de Trastamere; Tello, Count de Sancelloni; and Don Sancho. These gentlemen, seeing the murder of their brothers and many of the first nobility, and that he rather grew more cruel than less, determined to escape from his power. They fled to Pedro, King of Arragon, and implored his protection. Pedro of Castile threatened

the King of Arragon with a bloody war, if he harboured or protected them; he warned them to go further; they went to France, and begged protection there.

“Don Pedro the cruel confiscated their estates, and proscribed them as traitors. Not content with this revenge, he caused the Lady Leonora de Gusman to be put to death, because she refused to recal her sons into his power. These great provocations drove the exiled Princes to consider how they might secure their own lives, and revenge that of their mother.

“The prelates of Castile complained to the Pope, that the king took away the church lands, persecuted the clergy, and oppressed the land by his tyrannical exactions; and they also recited the complaints of the nobility, and begged of the Pope to find some remedy for them all.

“The Pope sent a legate into Castile, and cited Don Pedro to answer to those horrible crimes laid to his charge. The king refused to answer the citation, he insulted and threatened the Pope’s messengers, and bade them depart the kingdom. The Pope excommunicated

cated him, in a solemn consistory, in return. Don Pedro defied the Pope and his excommunication. His holiness resolved to humble and to punish him. He invited the King of Arragon and Don Henry Count de Trastamere to a conference at Avignon. He there denounced a sentence of deposition of Don Pedro; declared Don Henry the legitimate son of King Alphonso, and capable of inheriting the kingdom. He engaged in a league with the King of Arragon, who gave a free passage through his dominions to all who should enlist into the service of Don Henry. They invited adventurers of all kinds, among whom were the free-booters already mentioned. The King of France gave them the renowned Sir Bertrand du Guesclin for their general, who invited many other soldiers of fortune to take a share in this expedition: Sir Hugh Calverly and Sir Matthew Gowmay were persuaded to be of the party; they were promised that they should not be desired to serve against the Prince of Wales, and on these conditions they agreed to go with them. They were joined by a great number of the French noblesse, and they took the field soon

after. Du Guesclin found himself at the head of sixty thousand men—He obliged the Pope to advance two hundred thousand florins.—The King of France paid his quota cheerfully, and the army began their march. They gave out that they were going on a croisade against the Moors of Grenada. The King of Castile was not deceived by this pretence; he understood their true destination. He recalled his troops from Arragon, and attempted to raise an army to check the progress of these invaders of his kingdom; but he was so hated and feared, that few came to his rendezvous, and many soldiers deserted in their return from Arragon. He found himself totally deserted, and had hardly time to secure himself, his family, and his treasures, at Corunna, from whence he fled into Gascony; while Don Henry assumed the title of King of Castile and Leon, and was acknowledged by all the nobility of the kingdom.

“Don Hernando del Castro was the only nobleman who continued faithful to Don Pedro; he travelled with him—he advised him to implore the protection of the Prince of Wales. He went first with a few attendants,
and

and told a melancholy tale of his master's misfortunes; that the King of Arragon and the Pope, had joined in a league to deprive Don Pedro of his lawful inheritance, and to raise his bastard brother to his throne, a thing unheard of in a Christian country—That he was compelled to fly with his wife and children, and seek their safety in a foreign country—He implored the prince, for God's sake, to have compassion on him, and out of his great nobleness and generosity to receive and protect him, to assist him with his good counsel and advice, how he should proceed in the recovery of his inheritance, whereby he would entitle himself to the favour of heaven, and the honour and praise of all the world.

“The prince read the letters brought by Don Hernando; he said “Gentlemen, you
“are welcome from my cousin the King of
“Castile, tarry here and refresh yourselves,
“and you shall soon have my answer.” He consulted with the Lord Chandos and Lord Thomas Felton. He read the letters to them, and desired their opinion. They said, it would be worthy of the Prince to receive and protect the King of Castile, expelled his country, and

driven to distress—That it would require some time to consider and determine, whether to assist him to recover his kingdom, or not. In the mean time, it would be expedient to send ships to convey Don Pedro and his family to Bourdeaux, where they might, by personal conference, inform themselves of his situation, and take proper measures. The Prince approved their counsel, and put it into execution. He sent a fleet to conduct the King to Bourdeaux. They met him at Bayonne, and conducted him to Bourdeaux.

“ The prince gave him a royal reception, as if he had been in full possession of his throne. Don Pedro humbled himself before the Prince; he raised his compassion and his friendship. He implored his assistance, and persuaded him how meritorious it would be to restore an injured prince to his lawful inheritance. He promised unbounded gratitude, and recompence to the Prince, to the nobles, and to all who should assist him. The prince’s council differed in opinion, some urged the character of Don Pedro and his wickedness, and justified his subjects; others the injustice in dethroning him, and placing a bastard upon his throne.

Those

Those who wished to entitle themselves to the promised rewards, urged the glory and honour of the expedition: the enthusiasm of military glory was the prince's weak place, they placed it in a view that dazzled the light of his understanding, and they prevailed. The Prince sent messengers to his father to acquaint him with the intended expedition. The King approved it, and contributed to the expence of it, by consigning to his son one hundred and twenty thousand crowns, to be paid by the King of France, as part of King John's ransom. The Prince of Wales raised all the money he could, he melted down his plate for this service. He invited the King of France to a conference with Don Pedro, and himself; where they persuaded him to renounce his engagement with Don Henry, and to assist Don Pedro, to whom he promised a free passage through his dominions.

“ While these measures were pursuing in France, Don Henry took all possible means to maintain his seat on the throne. He bestowed great largesses on the adventurers and freebooters, for he depended chiefly on these companies. He thought, by these means,
to

to attach them to his interest; but he was mistaken, they were men whom no obligations could bind, no principle could govern. Great part of them had served under the Prince of Wales, and were indeed subjects of him or his father. They admired his courage, and dreaded his resentment; they had beside sworn never to serve against him.

“ The Prince, by his emissaries, gave them notice that he had occasion for their service, and desired they would meet him in Guienne. They immediately demanded their dismissal of Don Henry, who had then no suspicion of their design. Twelve thousand of them immediately set out on their march, the rest, who were dispersed about the country, no sooner heard of the Prince’s invitation, than they determined to follow their companions. Don Henry consulted du Guesclin, who advised him to block up all the passes through Arragon to prevent their return, and offered to raise a body of auxiliaries in France, and bring them to his assistance.

“ The companies being intercepted, took a different route, they divided into different bodies, and came together at last. Lord Chandos

dos met them; he enlisted them into the Prince's service. They fought a party of French recruits going to Don Henry's assistance, and defeated them at Montauban; after which they joined the Prince at Bourdeaux. A reinforcement arrived from England, under the command of John Duke of Lancaster, which, added to the other English and Gascons, and joined by the auxiliaries, composed a great and formidable army. The Prince marched the latter end of February, his army passed the Pyrennees in three divisions; they arrived in safety at Pampeluna, where he was supplied with provisions and necessaries by the King of Navarre. From thence they advanced to Salvaterra, a town on the frontiers of Castile, which submitted without resistance. Don Pedro ordered all the inhabitants to be put to the sword, shewing his cruel and savage disposition; but the prince withstood him, and desired him to forgive them, otherwise he would drive all his subjects to despair; that he ought rather to set an example of mercy that might induce them to return to their allegiance. The king could not deny the force of this reasoning, nor
could

could he refuse to comply with the prince's requisition.

“ It was resolved that they should pass the river Ebro at Lognrogno, and take post at Navaret.

Don Henry had raised an army of upward of fifty thousand men, he advanced to San Michael, where he was joined by Sir Bertrand du Guesclin with five thousand auxiliaries, and began to set his army in array. He neglected the advice of the Mareschal d' Andrehan, to guard the passages of the Ebro, and ruin the army of his enemies, by cutting off their convoys of provisions: He confided in a numerous and well-appointed army, and thought stratagems unnecessary. He sent a herald to Pampeluna, to acquaint the Prince of Wales, that he would fight him as soon as he should enter Castile. The Prince detained the messenger, till he had passed the Ebro, and then retorted his defiance by a letter.

“ The Prince marched to Navaret, and from thence to Viana, a town on the confines of Navarre. Here the army found a more plentiful country, though provisions were still scarce

scarce and dear, and the prince resolved to come to an action as soon as possible. Don Henry heard that the Prince had passed the Ebro; he then left St. Michael, where he had rested above a week, and went and encamped before Najara. The Prince was rejoiced at his approach: he said to his friends, "By St. George this bastard Henry seems a valiant knight! Since he desires to find us, I trust we shall meet him shortly."—He then gave orders to prepare for the battle.

"On the third day of April, the prince marched forward to meet the enemy. The van was commanded by the Duke of Lancaster and the Lord Chandos, constable of Aquitaine. The duke made twelve new knights on this occasion; the Lord Chandos made six knights to attend his banner;—he brought his ensign to the prince, saying, "My gracious lord, here is my guidon, I request of your highness to display it, and give me leave to raise it as my banner, for, I thank God and your highness, I have lands and possessions sufficient to maintain it."—The prince cut off the tail, and made it a square banner, then he and Don Pedro displayed it between them,
for

for the greater honour, and held it over the head of the knight banneret, and then returned it to him, saying, "Sir John, here is your banner; God send you all joy and honour with it!"—The Lord Chandos returned to his post, and said, "Gentlemen, here is my banner and yours; take it, and defend it to your honour and mine."—They received it with shouting and acclamations, swearing, by God and St. George, they would defend it to the utmost of their power. The banner was then given into the hands of William Allestry, a gallant English esquire, who acquitted himself of this charge bravely and honourably. The centre division of the army was commanded by the prince himself, assisted by Don Pedro. The prince made twelve new knights on this occasion, among whom were the two sons of his wife, Sir Thomas and Sir John Holland, three of the Courteny family, and the rest hopeful young gentlemen of great expectation. I had my station among these, by order of the prince; but my wishes were to have been of the Lord Chandos's party, knowing that I was envied and hated by the Hollands and their dependants.

"The

"The third division of this gallant army was commanded by James, King of Majorca, assisted by Oliver de Clifton, John Captal de Bische, the Lords of Armagnac and Albret, with the other nobles of Gascony and their followers.

"The right wing of Don Henry's army was commanded by Sir Bertrand du Guesclin and the Marshal d'Andrehan; in this battalion were all the strangers and auxiliaries. The second was led by the Earl of Sancelloni and Don Sancho, Don Henry's brother. The third, and greatest, by Don Henry himself. His whole army amounted to 120,000 men.

"The word of battle on one side was, 'Castile for King Henry;' on the other, 'St. George, Guienne for the Prince of Aquitaine.' I shall not enter into a minute detail of this battle, the circumstances are fresh in the memory of many persons now living. All the world knows that the Prince of Wales gained a complete victory. Don Henry and his brother fled the field, and escaped into Arragon; their army was broken and dispersed, and many of them were prisoners; the remainder submitted to Don Pedro.

"In the heat of the battle, Sir John Holland,
then

then a youth, had his sword struck out of his hand. I had the honour to restore it to him. I said, "Receive this service from your friend; learn to know and love him better." He made no reply, but an inclination of the head. All the young gentlemen behaved well, and acquitted themselves honourably.

"The prince's loss was very inconsiderable, that of the enemy very great; we lost not one person of note.

"When the battle was ended, the Prince of Wales caused his standard to be raised on an hill, and a tent pitched there; thither came all the great lords and officers to pay their duty—Don Pedro came with his banner also; when he alighted from his horse, he was going to throw himself at the prince's feet, but he prevented him by an embrace: "Dear and noble cousin, I owe you all the thanks and praises, that can be expressed by words, for this great victory, which I have by your means obtained."—The prince replied, with equal calmness and dignity: "Sir, pay your thanks to God only, for by him, and not by me, have you obtained this victory."—The lords and knights pressed into the tent, to congratulate

late the king and the prince: they rested that night in their tents, and ordered their officers to attend them in the morning.

“Don Pedro again shewed his savage and revengeful disposition; he required that all the prisoners should be put to death, and that the principal ones should be put into his power for that purpose. The prince said, “I also request one thing of you, Sir, and by our friendship and alliance you shall not refuse me.”—The king answered, “Fair cousin, all that I have is yours, I freely grant whatever you can desire.”—“Then, sir, it is my request that you grant a general amnesty and pardon to all your subjects, of all degrees whatsoever, all who have rebelled against you, until this day:—by this merciful conduct you will remain in peace and safety among your own people; you will be truly beloved and faithfully served by them, and you will be reconciled and united to them.”—The king could not for shame refuse any thing to the prince, to whom he owed such great obligations; therefore he replied, with as good a grace as he could, “Fair cousin, I yield to your request with all my heart.”—The prince sent immediately for the prisoners,

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and

and reconciled them to the king; he made them swear homage and fealty to him, and made the king forgive and speak graciously to them. He then gave them their liberty, upon their promise never again to bear arms against Don Pedro, their true and lawful king.

“ The following day, the king set out for Burgos, the capital of Old Castile, attended by a thousand men, commanded by Sir Guiscard de l'Angle, with all his newly pardon'd subjects in his train, who followed him with heavy hearts. The citizens of Burgos were informed of the battle of Najara, and the defeat of Don Henry. They reluctantly opened the gates of their city; they presented the keys to him, and received him with great pomp and solemnity.

“ The Prince and his army followed the King to Burgos; he entered the city in triumph.

“ They celebrated the festival of Easter with great solemnity. Don Pedro received the deputies from most of the cities and provinces of Castile, with offers of service and assurances of loyalty, and gave them gracious answers.

“ The Prince now began to remind Don Pedro of his promises; he desired he would
pay

pay the army, that they might be sent home, otherwise they would be burthensome to the country. "You know Sir," said he, "that if soldiers are not paid, they will pay themselves: I speak therefore for your advantage, and also for your reputation, when it shall be known that you have punctually discharged your promises to all those who have faithfully served you in this enterprize."

The king replied, "Fair cousin, I am resolved to hold, keep, and perform all that I have promised and sworn to, as soon, and as often as it shall be in my power; but truly, Sir, I have not in my hands money sufficient to answer your demand. I am now going a progress to Seville, where I hope to collect money to satisfy all men that have any demands upon me. In the mean time, I desire that you and your army will reside in and about Valladolid, which is a plentiful country, and will support the soldiers. As soon as I can raise the money, I will return to you, and at the farthest, I will be with you at Whitsuntide."

"This answer satisfied the prince and his council for the present; they made no doubt of the king's

king's honour and punctuality; they allowed for the circumstances and situation he had lately been in, and waited patiently for the king's return.

“ The news of the prince's success at Najara, and the restoration of Don Pedro, circulated through France, Germany and England, where great rejoicings were made on the occasion. The city of London raised triumphal arches, and made many shews of pomp and pageantry. They boasted that their prince was the flower of chivalry in all the known world. The parliament granted great subsidies to the king, and there passed every mark of affection and confidence between them.

“ In France there was a scene of a different kind, representing deep displeasure and unfeigned sorrow for the loss and captivity of so many valiant knights and men. The brave Sir Bertrand du Guesclin, and the Marechal Andrehan, were prisoners.

“ The prince resided at Valladolid till Midsummer, but received no money to pay his troops, nor did Don Pedro return to him. He sent three knights to the king, to remonstrate in his name on this want of punctuality.

The

The King received them graciously; but made excuses in lieu of payment—He told them, he was infinitely concerned that he could not exactly keep his promises, which he had made to his dear cousin the Prince of Wales; he had declared them to his subjects, but they protested they were not able to raise such considerable sums of money within so short a time. He complained of the Companions of the army, that they had robbed his officers whom he had sent to collect money for the prince's service. (This was false; but it was true that they lived at free quarter on his subjects.) Finally, he desired that they would tell his dear cousin, that he requested him to withdraw his army out of his realm, especially those rude soldiers called Companions, and leave behind him certain of his knights in whom he could trust; that in four months' time, he would pay to them one moiety of the money for which he stood engaged to the prince, and the remainder within one year following.

“This was all that the prince's deputies could obtain of the king; they returned to their lord, and told him all that had passed. He called a council, and declared all to them. He

told them, he now saw plainly that the king was both unjust and ungrateful; that his men were hurt by the infectious heats of the country, and himself far from well; that some resolution must be taken shortly. He asked their advice, whether he should compel Don Pedro to pay his men, or whether he should march his army out of the country. They unanimously advised him to return home with all convenient speed. That Don Pedro had basely deceived and disappointed him, to his utter shame and dishonour; that it was in vain to expect any longer the performance of his promises; that his men daily sickened and died; and it was necessary to take care of their health, and of his own, more precious than any. "Let us leave this tyrant," said they, "to the reproaches of his own conscience, and return home before matters grow worse."

"This step being resolved upon, they set a ransom upon the Marechal d'Andrehan, and exchanged many other prisoners: but Lord Chandos would not consent to free Sir Bertrand du Guesclin upon any terms; he told the prince, if this man were set at liberty, he would revive the contest for the kingdom

kingdom of Castile, and raise more troubles than he had done before.

“The King of Majorca was sick at the time the prince began his march homeward. He sent Lord Chandos and Sir Hugh Calverly to visit him, and to say he was loth to leave him behind. The king said, he thanked the prince most heartily, it was impossible for him to go till it should please God to restore his strength. They then desired to know whether the prince should leave a party of troops to attend him, and conduct him into Guienne. He answered, “no, surely; he “would not give the prince such unnecessary “trouble, but wished him a good journey.” The prince marched his army to Agreda, on the borders of Arragon, from whence he sent to the Kings of Navarre and Arragon to request to pass with his army through their dominions.

“The King of Arragon permitted them to pass, on condition that they behaved orderly, and paid for what they took. The King of Navarre met the Prince on his way, and paid him great respect and honour. He gave free consent that the prince and his

English and Gascon lords and followers should have a free passage; but on no account would he permit those men, called Companions, to go through Navarre; he said he had enough of them already. The Prince then ordered the Companions to pass through Arragon, and to behave themselves quietly, giving no offence to any. Himself, with the rest of his army, passed through Navarre. He staid four days at Bayonne, to refresh himself and his men, from thence he proceeded to Bourdeaux, where he was received in triumph, amidst the acclamations of all his people.

“In the course of our journey, the prince was told of the service I rendered to Sir John Holland at the battle of Najara; he spoke to him on the subject, and asked him who restored his sword. After some hesitation, he answered, “I do not know.”—“Did he not say something at the time that shewed who he was?”—“I have forgot,” said he.—“Then here is a gentleman shall remind you of it,” said the Prince.—It was Sir Philip Courtney, who repeated my words. Sir John blushed and hung down his head.—“You do well to be ashamed,” said the prince, “you hate Sir Roger de Clarendon, because

“ because he is your superior in every thing;
 “ but you cannot lessen him in my favour and
 “ affection. Go your way, take this lesson
 “ and study it, learn to know and to love him
 “ better in future, and not to repay his ser-
 “ vices with envy, malice, and ingratitude.”
 —Holland left his presence abashed at the
 rebuke, but not corrected by it; for it increa-
 sed his malignity towards me.

“ The princess came to the gates of Bour-
 deaux, to meet the prince; she led by the hand
 her young son Edward, then in the fourth year
 of his age, beautiful and amiable. The prince
 sprang forward, he took his son in his arms,
 and embraced him fervently. He bowed re-
 spectfully to the princess, then gave his son to
 her again; they led him between them into the
 city. My heart yearned towards this sweet
 child; I felt for him the affection of a father
 and a brother at the same time: I devoted
 myself in heart to his service. I asked the
 prince to permit me to see him often; and he
 ordered the attendants to admit me to his
 apartment whenever I desired it. I ought to
 have mentioned before, the birth of Richard
 of Bourdeaux, our present king. He was born

the day before the prince began his march into Spain, to the great joy of his parents and the royal family. He was a beautiful and promising child, in complexion and features like his mother; but Edward was the image of his father; he had the same look of dignity and sweetness, and promised to be of the same temper and disposition. Oh! what a loss did England sustain by the death of this sweet youth, at seven years of age! I felt his loss severely, and though I endeavoured to transfer my duty and affection to his brother Richard, I never felt for him those sensations of love and respect which I did for Prince Edward. O! that Richard was like his father and grandfather! but, alas! he is weak, vain, and frivolous, dissipated and extravagant: he wants that dignity and firmness of mind, that makes a king honoured and respected by his people. Never did a king come to the crown more desired and beloved; never did one lose the affection and confidence of his people more effectually. I dread the future, while I deprecate the past time. To none but this company would I have spoken thus freely; but still he is the son and grandson of the immortal Edward, he is
my

my prince, he is my brother, and, when he has need of my services, I am ready to shed my blood for him; God grant he may not want the assistance of me and all his faithful servants!

"I say amen! to that prayer," said Sir John Calverly, "every one of us present would support him with our lives and fortunes."—"Pray tell me," said Clement Woodville, "is it lawful to depose a king for any cause whatsoever? I ask for information."—"There are certainly causes that may justify such things," said Sir John, "for instance, that of Don Pedro, king of Castile, a tyrant, stained with cruelty, injustice, oppression, and every crime that disgraces human nature. My father repented of the part he acted in restoring him to the throne, and yet the restoration was but temporary, for Don Henry slew him in battle, and wore his crown, and left it to his children."—"But," said Clement, "who is to be the judge of a king's unworthiness to reign?"—"Doubtless, the people whom he has injured, and who are groaning under his oppression," said Sir John.—"May they not be mistaken in their

“ judgment; may they not take upon them to
 “ revenge supposed injuries ? ” — “ Such things
 “ may be,” said Sir Roger, “ because human
 “ nature is liable to error; but I believe it
 “ seldom happens, that a whole nation shall
 “ unite to throw off the yoke of a tyrant,
 “ without the greatest injuries and provo-
 “ cations.”

“ What think you of the deposition of our
 “ King Edward II ? ” — “ As of the work of a
 “ faction, not the whole body of the people.
 “ The Queen and Mortimer were the head
 “ of the party; they watched an opportunity to
 “ seize on the king, and usurp his authority,
 “ which, however, they dared not use in their
 “ own names, but made his son king, and go-
 “ verned under him for a time. The young
 “ prince’s genius soon burst through the cloud
 “ with which it was enveloped; he threw off
 “ his fetters, he acted for himself, and showed
 “ himself worthy to wear a crown; and re-
 “ venged his father’s death by that of the base
 “ Mortimer.”

“ It seems to me,” said Clement, “ that in
 “ that action he lessened his own dignity, he
 “ should have left it to the law to take the life
 “ of that traitor to his king and country.”

Sir

Sir John—"He was young, and doubtful
 "of his own power, and of his friends; he
 "would not have done so in his riper years."

Clement—"Pray you, my friends, who
 "think you is now the presumptive heir of
 "the crown, in case king Richard dies with-
 "out issue?"

Sir Roger—"The king himself declared
 "Edmund Mortimer his next heir."

Clement—"A Mortimer heir to the throne
 "of England!—What, the grandson of the
 "man who was Queen Isabel's paramour, and
 "King Edward's murderer?"

Sir Roger—"He is also the grandson of
 "King Edward III.—Who else would you
 "suppose had a claim to the succession?"

Clement—"The next male heir of the
 "name of Plantagenet; as long as there lives a
 "prince of that name, the crown ought not
 "to rest upon the head of a Mortimer."

Sir John—"Roger Mortimer was restored
 "in blood by the king in full parliament; he
 "was married to Philippa, only daughter of
 "Lionel Duke of Clarence; the descendants
 "of them have the rights of the second son of
 "Edward III."

Clement—"It was an ill considered marriage; but still, in my opinion, it ought not to set aside the rights of the Plantagenets."

Sir John—"Who then do you think is the heir of the crown?"

Clement—"The illustrious prince Henry Plantagenet, eldest son of John Duke of Lancaster and Duke of Hereford. I am much mistaken if the nation in general are not of the same opinion, and look up to him as their future king."

Sir Roger—"I pray God they may not direct his eye to look up to the crown, even before this point comes in question. He is brave and ambitious, and is forward to blame the king upon every occasion. He is much to be feared."

Clement—"Supposing the rights of the Mortimers should devolve to a female, would she give the crown to the man she should choose?"

Sir John—"It is talked, that the eldest daughter is to be married to the eldest son of the Duke of York."

Sir Roger—"Then her rights would return again to a Plantagenet."

Clement

Clement—"Pardon me. The sons of the
"third son would surely have a superior right
"to those of the fourth."

Sir John—"I think this point would bear
"much dispute."

Clement—"Then it might involve the na-
"tion in one."

Sir Roger—"Let us pray that the king may
"have children, and that this contest may never
"happen!"

Sir John—"Our Saxon ancestors did not
"lay so great a stress upon hereditary right as
"we do at present: If the heir was a minor,
"he was often set aside, and the next of ma-
"ture years was placed on the throne. In
"Scotland this has been done still more fre-
"quently, and still the crown has been kept
"in the same family."

Lady Calverly—"Let us leave this point
"undecided, and return to our narration.—Sir
"Roger, will you proceed?"

Sir Roger—"It is with a heavy heart I pro-
"ceed, madam. I shall abridge, in future,
"what I must relate.—The glory of the Prince
"of Wales had now passed its meridian line,
"it hastened to its decline, too soon to set in
"a cloud."

“ The rejoicings in Guienne were of short continuance. The prince was involved in difficulties; he wanted money to pay his army, and wished to discharge the greatest part of it. He raised new taxes upon his subjects in Guienne, which caused much discontent. There is nothing by which a prince so certainly loses the affections of his people as by new and oppressive taxes; if they pay a certain proportion of their properties to secure the remainder, and this remainder is liable to be torn from them, they will murmur, they will resent it; and, in process of time, if this grievance is not removed, they will rise and endeavour to throw it off. The prince was under a cruel necessity, either of suffering the freebooting companies to live at free quarter upon his people, or to raise money to discharge them. Yet even this excuse was not allowed in a prince so much honoured and beloved; it lost him the hearts of his people.

“ Don Henry of Castile had made a league with the Duke of Anjou, who hated the Prince of Wales, and left nothing untried to raise disturbances in his dominions. He used all his influence in favour of Don Henry; they gathered

gathered many friends and followers, and resolved to have another trial for the kingdoms of Castile and Leon.

“ Some questions of consequence were debated in the Parliament of England. The king sent for the Prince of Wales from Guienne; but the discontents in that country hindered his departure. The new taxes were opposed by the Lords of Armagnac and Albret, and the other great lords, who declared they would never submit to them; they retired to their castles; and put themselves into a state of defence. Don Henry took advantage of the troubles in Guienne. He set up his standard, and assembled an army. The Duke of Anjou gave him all the assistance in his power both of men and money, and many Spaniards repaired to his standard. Don Pedro, King of Arragon, died about this time; he had acquired the honourable name of the Just. He was a strict observer of justice and the laws of his country: he punished severely all those who broke them, particularly the lawyers whose business it was to explain and enforce them. Some of these who had given unjust decrees, he degraded from their profession, and obliged them

them to till the land. This saying is ascribed to him. "That Prince is unworthy of the name of a King, who does not, every day of his life, some act of justice or kindness to those whom he governs."—This excellent Prince reigned only ten years, and left his crown to his son Don Ferdinand, who became a friend to Don Henry of Castile, and permitted him to march his army through his dominions. Don Henry was received with open arms; the cities of Burgos, Valladolid, Leon, and Astorga, immediately acknowledged him for their king. The nobility and their vassals came from all parts to join his army. He went forward, without interruption, till he came before Toledo, which refused him admittance. He laid siege to it, and resolved to reduce it. In the mean time Don Pedro had raised an army, and was marching to its relief.

"Don Pedro, King of Portugal, sent a body of men to his assistance. He made a league with the Moorish Kings of Grenada, Belmaine, and Tremissen, who sent him thirty thousand men, Moors, Saracens, Jews and adventurers of all sorts. He sent to engage the freebooting companies,

companies, and desired Sir Hugh Calverly to lead them into Spain. That gallant knight had more than enough disgust from his former expedition, and he resolved to have no more engagements with Don Pedro. He resigned the command of the Companions to Sir Matthew Gowmay, and himself remained in Guienne, near the Prince, who he feared would want his assistance.

“ Sir Bertrand du Guesclin came to the assistance of Don Henry with a body of hardy and experienced men. They met Don Pedro’s mungrel army, and soon put them to flight: They retreated to the castle of Montiel, where Don Pedro hoped to be in safety. Don Henry pursued him, and besieged the castle. Don Pedro’s friends advised him to escape; he attempted it, but was overtaken and brought back. A skirmish ensued, in which Don Henry killed him with his own hand. Thus ended the adventures and life of Don Pedro the Cruel, King of Castile. The crown remained to Don Henry, who left it to his posterity.

“ While these things were doing in Castile, the discontented Lords in Guienne applied to
the

the King of France. They complained of the Prince of Wales's new and oppressive taxes; they assured him that he had lost the hearts of his subjects, and that they wished to transfer their duty and allegiance to the King of France. Charles longed for an opportunity to recover the lost territories in Guienne, yet he feared the hazard and expence of a new war. While he was fluctuating in opinion, he summoned the Prince of Wales to come before the court of peers, and answer to the complaints of the lords of Guienne. The Prince, provoked at this citation, sent for answer, that he should soon be ready to set out for Paris with sixty thousand men in his retinue.

"The King of France, after long deliberation, resolved to break out with England by degrees. He was encouraged by the old age of King Edward, and the declining health of the Prince. He perceived, that neither himself nor his father were a match for the English in the field; but he might, by art and stratagem, recover the dominions that they had lost. He made preparations as secretly as possible; he tampered with the nobility of Ponthieu, and with

with the citizens of Abbeville, whom he gained over to his interest. At the same time he sent ambassadors to England with assurances of his disposition to peace, and overtures for a confirmation of the last treaty. King Edward being himself sincere, had no suspicion of the duplicity of Charles; he believed him, and answered to all his proposals. The deputies, on their return to France, met a messenger, sent by King Charles, with an insolent message and defiance to the King of England. He was not a little surprised; he ordered the lords Percy, Neville, and Windsor, to set out immediately for Ponthieu, with a reinforcement for the defence of that province. When they arrived at Calais, they received the news that Abbeville, St. Valery, Crotoy and Noyelle, had surrendered themselves to the King of France. The Duke of Berry, the Count of Alençon, and the Count of Harcourt, who were hostages in England, had returned home upon their parole, with leave to pass a year in France. Upon this rupture they refused to return to England; they served in the subsequent war, in contempt of all the principles of honour, and in violation of the oath they had taken.

“ Thus

“ Thus the war between England and France was renewed; it continued several years, and was carried on by skirmishes with various success; places were taken on both sides and afterwards retaken. Individuals distinguished themselves; the heroes I have mentioned, on both sides, acquired much glory, but little advantage. The great Sir Bertrand du Guesclin was made high constable of France, an honour of which he was truly worthy. His advice was to avoid pitched battles, and to recover his ground by degrees, as times and occasions should arise. The Dukes of Anjou and Berry engaged the freebooting companies on their side of the Loire. Sir Hugh Calverly brought six thousand men of the same kind, who were returning from Spain, and enlisted them in the service of the prince of Wales. The Earls of Cambridge, and Pembroke brought another reinforcement from England. The Lord Chandos was high constable of Guienne, and one of the first generals of his time; Sir Guischar d’ Angle was with him; Sir Robert Knolles came to join him with a considerable army.—I was with Lord Chandos, and my kinsman Henry Morley; he gave me the command

mand of a company, and I never left him. I was engaged in all the sieges and skirmishes, and continued with him till that unfortunate campaign, that cost the life of that great warrior and most excellent man.

“The Prince of Wales grew so weak in health, that he could not sit on horseback; he was carried to the field in his litter, and even then performed many exploits worthy of his name. He was advised to pay a visit to England, to try whether his native air would not restore his health. He waited till the Duke of Lancaster could come over, and to him he left the chief command during his absence, which he promised should not be more than a few months. My good friend Palmer went with him, and was near his person, and stood high in his favour. I will relate a few of the many adventures which befel the Lord Chandos, that shew his nobleness of mind, and the great loss he was to his royal master.

“The young Earl of Pembroke was a brave and high spirited man, and took the Lord Chandos for his model; he resolved to imitate, and if possible to excel him.

“Some indiscreet young men, such as are
always

always buzzing about the ears of young men of high fortunes and quality, suggested to the earl, that if he served under Lord Chandos, all the glory would be given to him as the elder officer, and if they were vanquished, it would be ascribed to the young men as unexperienced and unskilful. That he was of years and quality to command a party by himself, and numbers would press to serve under him. These insinuations gained their way to the heart of the young earl, and he determined to try his fortune by himself.

“ Soon after the Lord Chandos assembled his army at Poitiers, and sent to the Earl of Pembroke to join him at Chatelleraut, in order to march together to Haye-en-Touraine. Instead of coming he sent an excuse, that he could not by any means wait on Lord Chandos, having engaged himself another way. Lord Chandos was exceedingly displeased at this answer. He communicated it to his officers, Lord Piercy, Lord Spencer, Sir Neale Loring, Sir Thomas Banister, Sir Geoffrey Argentine, Sir William Montandre, Sir Richard Taunton, and the rest of his council, who thought it not beneath them to fight under the Lord Chandos.

“ He

“He said, “Is it possible that a nobleman,
 “and a man of honour, can be biassed from his
 “country’s good to serve his own private de-
 “signs?—Well, then, in God’s name be it
 “so!—but we will lay aside our present de-
 “sign, and rest for a while in the city of
 “Poitiers.”

“Upon this account he dismissed great part
 of his army, and went into winter quarters in
 the city of Poitiers.

“When the Earl of Pembroke heard that
 Lord Chandos had laid up his army in winter
 quarters, he determined to lead his party out
 in quest of honour. He marched forth with
 about five hundred men in all, including many
 knights of England, Poitou, and Saintonge.
 Now the French lords of the frontiers of Tou-
 raine, Anjou, and Poitou, learned that Lord
 Chandos had laid aside his intended expedi-
 tion; and also, that Lord Pembroke had,
 through extreme youth, presumption, and folly,
 refused to go and serve under Lord Chandos;
 they assembled a number of men, and resolved to
 intercept his progress, choosing rather to meet
 with him than Lord Chandos. Lord Pembroke
 made an excursion into the lands of Rouchmart,
 and

and committed many acts of hostility. The French party, under the command of the Baron of Sancerre, laid in wait for him at his return. The Earl was marching homewards without suspicion. He and his company entered a village called Poirenon at noon time. He ordered his officers to mark out quarters for the men. Some of the servants took the horses, others were busy in providing for dinner; when suddenly the French came galloping into the town, crying out, "Our lady of Sancerre for the Marshal of France!" The Earl and his company were amazed. There was no time to lose. They drew out their men, blew their trumpets, and unfolded their banners and called to arms. The men were intercepted, and above an hundred slain. The Earl, Sir Thomas Piercy, Sir Baldwin Freville, Sir John Harpedon, and the rest of the gentlemen, with about three hundred men, threw themselves into a building called the Temple, surrounded with high stone walls; there they resolved to defend themselves to the last extremity. They barred up the entrance, and threw stones at their assailants.

"The French were told they were got into
a church-

a church-yard. The general, laughing, said,
 "Let us give them time to choose their graves,
 "and after dinner we will go and see how
 "they fit them."—The officers answered,
 "Let us not delay long, they are ours securely,
 "and dearly shall they pay for all the damages
 "they have done in Touraine and Anjou."

"The Earl of Pembroke now saw the dangerous situation into which he had brought himself and his companions. He repented, too late, of his behaviour to Lord Chandos, and wished, unfeignedly, to be under his command and protection. The night came on, the French did not attack them; they were secure of their prey, and tired with their march; they resolved to take their rest, and let their enemies do the same; saying, "it was best fighting in the cool of the morning, and "the exercise would get them an appetite to "their dinners." It was a heavy night to the Earl and his friends; but under its cover he contrived to send away an esquire, on whose affection and fidelity he relied, to Poitiers, and ordered him to tell my Lord Chandos, that he and his men were in a most dangerous condition; begging him to forgive his
 past

past behaviour, and come to his relief; he trusted there was time enough to come, for he hoped to defend the place till noon. He charged his messenger to ride with all speed, and make no stop, for their lives depended on his fidelity and expedition.

The young gentleman, who dearly loved the Earl, promised to do his utmost; adding, no man better knew the way to Poitiers. He set out at midnight, on a good horse, and was far on his way by day-break. As soon as it was light, the French came to the assault, contending, as for an honour, who should first mount the walls. The English defended themselves to admiration; they threw down stones of six, eight, and ten pounds' weight, which battered shields and helmets, and threw them down as fast as they ascended. There never was heard of so weak a place so well defended, and so few hands resisting so many with such obstinacy. At length, the French weary of fighting so long, and gaining no advantage, sent for mattocks and pickaxes, to break down and undermine the wall, of which the English were most afraid. The hour of noon approached; the Earl of Pembroke called
a faith-

a faithful friend of his aside, "My friend," said he, "make one more effort for our lives : "take my best horse, and go out at the postern "gate ; go straightway to Poitiers, and tell my "Lord Chandos the great danger we are in ; "recommend me to him by this token, and "desire him, for the love of God, to make all "the haste he can to deliver us." So saying he took a ring of great value off his finger, and gave it to the messenger, who, proud of the honour, made no stay, but set out instantly for Poitiers.

"The first esquire had gone out of his way, and did not arrive till some hours later than he ought ; he arrived at ten o'clock, and found Lord Chandos at mass. He went into the church, kneeled down beside him, and delivered his message, excusing the urgency of the case. Lord Chandos replied, in a low voice, "It is too late, I cannot be there time enough ; I will therefore hear out the mass." After mass was ended, the tables were spread for dinner ; and his servants asked, whether he chose to dine ? He answered, "Yes, if all "things were ready ;" and bade them call all the gentlemen to dinner with him. While

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they were sitting at table, the second esquire came from Lord Pembroke; he ran to him, kneeled down, and gave him the ring, and delivered the message: the young gentleman added his own account of the perilous situation in which he left his lord, and his brave companions. He answered, "If you left him in the condition you describe, it will be impossible for us to come time enough to be of any service to him. Gentlemen, let us dine, for our meat will be cold." His officers sat down to dinner; he ate little or nothing, but seemed full of thought. When the first course was taking away, and the second coming on, he said, "What say you, gentlemen, the Earl of Pembroke is a gallant young man, of high birth and great merit, and he is the king's son-in-law, brother and companion to the Earl of Cambridge; by his rashness and presumption, he hath brought himself and his company into extreme danger; but shall we leave him to perish? He requests me to come to his assistance. We ought not to let such a man be lost, if we can save him: What say you?" They all answered, they would follow him with all their hearts

hearts—"Then, by the grace of God, we will go instantly to his assistance; gentlemen, make ready for Poirenon."—He rose that instant, the gentlemen did the same. The drums beat to arms, the men were called together, and they began their march directly.

"By this time the Earl of Pembroke was in a great strait, he began to despair of relief.—He called to Lord Spencer, "All is over, Lord Chandos leaves us to perish!"—"Be of good cheer my lord, he answered, Lord Chandos will yet come; let us fight it out to the last, and sell our lives as dear as possible. The French shall buy us at a high rate."

"While they were thus keeping death at the staves' end, the spies of the French came to the Marshal de Sancerre, telling him that Lord Chandos had left Poitiers, and was marching towards Poirenon. These were followed by others with additional circumstances, that Lord Chandos ardently wished to find them there, and was making all the haste possible.

"The Marshal called his officers together, and asked their advice: "Gentlemen, our men are weary of fighting these Englishmen, and to no purpose; were it not better for us to

“retreat while we are well, with our prisoners
 “and booty, before Lord Chandos arrives?
 “His men are fresh and hearty, ours weary and
 “spent: we know not what numbers he brings,
 “we may be surrounded and slain, or taken
 “prisoners. What say you?”—Sir John de
 Vienne seconded the Marshal; their advice was
 taken: A retreat was founded, they put them-
 selves in order, and marched away to la Roche-
 Pofay.

“The Earl of Pembroke and his companions
 knew by this hasty retreat that Lord Chandos
 was coming; they shouted for joy, and made
 ready to receive them—the Earl called out,
 “Come on, my brave companions! let us now
 “leave this wretched place, where we have
 “been cooped up so long, without food or rest;
 “let us march forward to meet our dear friend
 “and deliverer, the Lord Chandos!” They
 marched out of the town, and met Lord Chan-
 dos at a mile distant of it.—They met with mu-
 tual shouting and congratulations; but Lord
 Chandos was much dissatisfied that he came too
 late to find the Frenchmen.

“Lord Pembroke called him his father; he
 asked pardon for his former behaviour, and
 begged

begged he would permit him to call himself his scholar in future. Lord Chandos readily forgave him, he told him this adventure would be of service to him all the rest of his life; for himself he had only performed his duty, and wished he had come sooner.

“ They rode together about three leagues, and then separated. Lord Chandos returned to Poitiers, and Lord Pembroke to Mortaigne, from whence he came.

“ You may judge of the high estimation of Lord Chandos, by the effects of his name among his enemies. England had at that time a great number of worthies in every department, we have a saying, “ shew us your companion, and “ we will tell what kind of man you are.”— This will apply to kings and princes, as much or more than to private men—Princes draw around them a circle of men like themselves— Such as we have described them, were King Edward, and his son the Prince of Wales, such were their favourites and friends. All human events are in a constant state of fluctuation. The glory of these great men had attained its zenith, by degrees it approached its decline. A series of misfortunes came forward, that shewed

the uncertainty of human felicity. Lionel Duke of Clarence, the king's second son, was married to the Duke of Milan's daughter, the nuptials were celebrated with the greatest pomp and magnificence. Whether the excess of feasting, or the heat of the country affected the young prince is uncertain, but he took a fever, and died at Milan within four months after. He was a beautiful and accomplished prince, and most resembled his elder brother; all the royal family lamented him truly, and his domestics adored him.—He left only one daughter by his first wife, called Philippa, since married to Roger Mortimer, Earl of March.

“The following year King Edward had a still greater loss, his excellent queen Philippa was taken from him; a princess of the greatest virtue and piety, an incomparable wife and mother, a true lover of the English nation, a patroness of merit of all kinds, a protector of the poor and the unfortunate, a loss to the public. With her last breath she desired to be buried at Westminster, and requested her lord to repose beside her, which he promised.—It were endless to relate the feats of arms, and strange adventures of the knights and captains both of
France

France and England ; but at the close of every campaign the French gained ground, every year saw them recover towns, cities, and provinces. A new event contributed to the final loss of Guienne.

“ The Duke of Lancaster was regent in Gascony during the absence of his brother, he was lately become a widower ; the lords of Gascony took upon them to recommend a wife to him. The two daughters of Don Pedro the cruel were left in Guienne, as hostages for the payment of the sums of money due from their father to the Prince of Wales. The Duke of Lancaster’s ambition was gratified by his marriage with the heiress of Castile and Leon, which he resolved to claim as her husband. He persuaded his brother, Edmund Earl of Cambridge, to marry Isabel the younger daughter, telling him how noble it was of them to marry and protect two distressed princesses of beauty and merit worthy of thrones. The young prince accepted the proposal. They sent a train of lords and gentlemen to conduct the ladies to Bourdeaux, the princes met them at the village of Rochefort, and from thence conducted

them to Bourdeaux, where they were married with great pomp and festivity.

“Immediately upon his marriage, John of Ghent assumed the arms and titles of King of Castile and Leon, by which he brought upon himself the hatred and enmity of Don Henry, the reigning king, who exerted all his endeavours to ruin the English interest in Guienne, which was the only country that afforded the Duke an opportunity to invade his dominions. These marriages gained no advantage to the princes, but produced many bad consequences. Don Henry was more strongly than ever united to the interest of the King of France.

“I served under Lord Chandos, whose exploits alone would fill a large volume: the principal officers were all heroes enrolled in the lists of fame; the inferior officers were only as satellites to the greater planets. Henry Morley was the ensign of my company; our friendship was confirmed and strengthened by experience of each other's affection and fidelity. During the prince's visit in England, he saw Sir Roger and Lady Morley frequently. He spoke well of Henry, and of me also.—Young Roger

ger was jealous of our advantages ; he begged of the prince to receive him into his service. With his parents' consent the prince sent him over to Bourdeaux, and recommended him to the Duke of Lancaster, who placed him with the other young gentlemen under his command. I was not sorry that he was separated from us, for I knew he would have been a thorn in my side ; however, several civil letters and messages passed between us.

“ The town of St. Salvin, seven leagues from Poictiers, was firmly attached to England, and the abbey particularly. A certain monk, who hated the abbot, conspired with some of the French officers, and at length betrayed the abbey and the town into their hands. They immediately repaired and fortified it, and placed a strong garrison in it.

“ When Lord Chandos heard these news, he was grieved above measure, for he was Senechal of Poictou, and this town belonged to his province. He thought of nothing else but the recovery, which he determined to effect by force or by stratagem. He sent secretly to several barons, knights, and gentlemen, to meet him at Poictiers on the last day of December,

and to come as privately as possible, to go with him upon a secret expedition. They came punctually with three hundred spearmen, and as soon as it was dark, Lord Chandos began his march, no man knew whither, except some of his own servants who were ordered to provide scaling ladders. They came to St. Salvin at midnight. They alighted from their horses, and silently entered the dyke, which was then hard frozen.—At that instant they heard a horn blow loudly. Carlonet the Breton came from his garrison at la Roche-Pozay, to speak with St. Julian the captain, about a secret expedition which he had planned. Our party on the other side of the fortrefs, who were just fixing the scaling ladders, hearing the horn blow, concluded they were discovered. They drew back again, and thus lost the opportunity they had sought for, and never could recover again. At the same time the other party drew back from the dyke; the leaders said, “Let us go from whence we came, our design is discovered, we “can do nothing this night.”—They retreated silently to Chauvigny, about three leagues from St. Salvin. The Poictevins asked Lord Chandos if he had any farther service for them at that

that time. He answered, "Gentlemen our design is dash'd for the present, you may re- turn home whenever you please. As for me and my men, we shall tarry here the remainder of the day."

"The Gentlemen and their followers withdrew. Lord Chandos had about three hundred men with him. He went into an house, ordered a good fire and a breakfast. The officers came about him, and myself among them. Sir Thomas Percy said, "Sir, are you resolved to tarry here all day?"—"Yes, truly I am, why do you ask me?"—"Because if you stay here, I desire you will give me leave to go out with my company. The Frenchmen are abroad, I should like to meet them, and try my fortune."

"Go your way, Sir, in God's name, I shall tarry here."

"Sir Thomas went away with fifty men in his company; he avoided the bridge of Chauvigny, and took the great road to Lussac.—Lord Chandos was full of displeasure that he had failed of his design. He stood with his hands behind him, warming himself at the fire, seeming lost in thought, and saying nothing to any of

us. The servants had prepared a pallet, and asked him if he would not lie down.

"At this instant a man came in saying, "Sir, "for certain the Frenchmen are abroad seeking adventures."—"How know you that, my friend?"—"Sir, I rode with them from St. Salvin, they took the great road to Lussac."—"Who are their captains?"—"Sir Lewis of St. Julian, and Carlonet the Breton."—"Well, I care not. Perhaps they may be met, though not by me."—I then spoke, "Will you permit me to go out with my company?"—"No Sir, your experience is not great enough for such enterprizes—Remember what befel the Earl of Pembroke!"—"Sir, I shall do whatever you command."

"Sir, I shall want you here, and all the rest of you."

"He seemed to be meditating some great design; at last he spoke: "Gentlemen, I have altered my mind. I think it best to ride abroad now, for I mean to return to Poitiers in the course of this day; therefore make ready instantly."

"We immediately mounted our horses and attended him. We left Chauvigny and coast-
ed

ed the river, intending to return to Poitiers by the bridge of Luffac.—Lord Chandos perceived he was in the track of the French Party, for he heard their horses neigh, and at a still greater distance, other horses, which he supposed were with Sir Thomas Percy.

“ The French knew not that Lord Chandos was marching after them ; but they saw Sir Thomas Percy and his men, on the other side the bridge, and gained ground upon them. He, finding himself out-numbered, turned back to get the advantage of the bridge. The French ranged themselves to defend it, and considered how to attack them. In the mean time, Lord Chandos and his party came up to them : he was full of anger against them—he lifted up the vizor of his helmet, and spoke thus to them : “ Hark you, Frenchmen ! you are “ rude and unfair soldiers—you ride about at “ your ease night and day—you take towns “ and castles at your pleasure, here in Poitiers, “ where I am Seneschal.—Sir Lewis, and “ you Carlonet, you take too much upon “ you.—I have been told that you have desired “ to meet me : here am I, John Chandos, look “ on me, and know me : I thank God I now “ meet you, and speak to you, now we shall
“ try

“ try who are the better men : I am ready for
“ you”.

“ While Lord Chandos was speaking, a certain Breton struck down an English esquire, with a blow of his sword ; Lord Chandos was enraged at this sight ; he exclaimed, “ Sir, “ why do you suffer this man to be slain ?” he and all his company came and rescued him immediately. Then Lord Chandos came forward like himself, to attack the French with his banner before him, and his men followed with undaunted courage : alas ! who can withstand fate, whether it meets him in the field or in his bed ? and often it meets us, when we least expect it, and when we think ourselves conquerors !—That morning there had been an hoar frost, which made the ground moist and slippery. At the instant of joining battle with the enemy, Lord Chandos slid and fell down. The Frenchmen were on foot, and he ordered us to alight, when we engaged them. In the impatience of Lord Chandos to revenge his Esquire, he had forgot to pull down his vizor : as he was rising from his fall, an esquire of Gascony, called Jacques de St. Martin, gave him a thrust in the face with a sword,

sword, which entered under his left eye, and
 went through his nose, and into his forehead.
 He was blind of his left eye, and saw not the
 stroke to avoid it.—He fell down to the earth,
 and rolled up and down in an agony of pain,
 and though he died not immediately, he never
 spoke a word after. His uncle, Sir Edward
 Clifford, stepped over him and defended his body,
 he was seconded by Sir John Chambow, and
 Sir Bertram Case, who fought like madmen,
 being almost distracted with grief and despair
 for the loss of their honoured and beloved ge-
 neral. All the rest pressed forward to revenge
 his death, and fought desperately. Lord
 Chandos his standard bearer, Robert Alleyne,
 saw St. Martin, who gave Lord Chandos his
 deadly wound. He gave his banner to his
 kinsman, and with his sword struck him so
 violently, that he beat him down upon his
 knees, and run the sword through both his
 thighs : in this situation, this man fought till
 he died.

“ If Sir Thomas Percy, and his men on the
 other side of the bridge had the least idea of
 our situation, he would have given us assist-
 ance, and offered a greater sacrifice to the
 ghost

ghost of his dying friend, but he was ignorant of it.

“ When the French saw Lord Chandos approach, they had given their horses to the pages and servants to hold, these fled away with them, and returned no more. They now found the want of them saying, “ The day is ours, if we had “ our horses to secure it.” The English gave way, but kept in good order, retreating slowly, and guarding those who bore the body of Lord Chandos. The French were heavy armed, and could not pursue us. In this situation we were, when the party who left us early in the morning, came up with us. They rode out to seek the French party with three hundred spearmen.—When the French saw them approach, they said to their prisoners, “ Sirs, “ there comes a strong party to your assistance, “ they are fresh, and we are weary, we are “ conscious that we cannot stand against them. “ Now we will become your prisoners, upon “ condition that you will bear us harmless, for “ we will not lie at the mercy of these new “ comers.” The new party now came up crying, “ St. George for Guienne,” the French cried out, “ That they were prisoners already,” and

and the Englishmen confirmed the same. Carlonet was prisoner to Sir Bertram Case, St. Julian to Sir John Chambow : in like manner, every man found a master.

“ When all things were settled, then the leaders of the party knew the fate of Lord Chandos. Sir Guischarde D’ Angle, at the head of them, saw their noble Seneschal lying on the ground, still alive, but unable to speak to them. Sir Guischarde exclaimed, “ Alas, alas, Sir John Chandos ! thou flower of chivalry, in all the world !—accursed was that weapon, that wrought this cruel deed, and brought so great a man to death’s door !”

“ All the army lamented him with sighs, tears, and groans. Sir Edward Clifford had never left him one moment ; he now caused him to be unarmed, and laid upon shields, and carried to the next fortress : he lived another night and day, and seemed sensible, but could not utter a word ; he grasped his uncle’s hand, and expired.

“ Never was man more lamented ; even his enemies joined in celebrating his praises. The King of France said, “ there was not living a man so likely to have renewed the peace between

"tween England and France, as the Lord Chandos, he was so dear to King Edward, and his son the Prince of Wales, and so beloved and revered by all good men."

"We buried our honoured friend and master in the fortress of Mortimer, and paid all due respect to his memory.

"Lord Chandos was never married, he left two sisters, and the daughter of a third. They were co-heiresses to all his estates in England; but to his dear lord and master the Prince of Wales, he left all his estates in Normandy and Guienne, to the amount of four thousand pounds a year, and several legacies to his friends and servants.

"The King and all the Royal Family lamented his loss; "Now," said the King, "I have lost my best Knight on that side the water." Sir Thomas Percy succeeded him as Seneschal of Poitiers.—The Duke of Lancaster returned to England with his bride.—He appointed the Earl of Pembroke governor of Guienne. He was then in England, but embarked soon after for the continent. When the fleet arrived in the road of Rochelle, they were met by the navy of Castile, consisting of forty large ships, besides

sides smaller ones, commanded by Owen, who called himself Prince of Wales, pretending to be descended from the ancient princes. The Spaniards were superior in numbers, yet the first day the victory was doubtful ; but the second, it was decisive in favour of Spain. Great numbers of the English were killed, the Earl of Pembroke, Sir Guischard D' Angle, and Sir John Curson, were taken prisoners. The military chest, containing twenty thousand pounds, was sunk and lost, the rest of the valuables were taken by the Spaniards. The Captal De Buche entered Rochelle the next day, with six hundred men at arms, which prevented the defection of that city ; nevertheless this misfortune caused a general consternation through all Guienne, and the French did not fail to make their advantage of it.

“ Soon after the Constable Du Guesclin entered Poictiers with a numerous army, he took Montmorillon by storm ; Chauvigny, Luffac, and Montcontour surrendered without resistance. Poictiers opened its gates to the Constable, while the English took Niort by storm. Soubize was invested by the Baron De Pons ; John De Grielly Captal De Buche
came

came upon him in the night, and took him and his party prisoners. The same night he was surprised in his turn, and made a prisoner, with Sir Thomas Percy, and others. The Baron of Pons was rescued, Soubize surrendered to the victor. John De Greilly was conveyed to Paris, and detained there for the remainder of his life. The King of France tried to seduce him from the interests of England: finding that impossible, he would not admit him to ransom, but kept prisoner for life one of the most brave, experienced, faithful, and honourable knights of all his enemies.

“ Lord Chandos was dead, Lord Pembroke a prisoner, the Capital taken also, there was none left able to stop the progress of the Constable; he over-ran all the rest of Poitiers, the natives were before inclined to return to their allegiance to France. King Edward being informed of these things, made preparations to assist his friends, and oppose his enemies. He ordered the Duke of Lancaster to postpone his intended invasion of Picardy, and to march into Poitiers.

“ He

“ He ordered four hundred large ships to be prepared to transport his army, and resolved to go over in person. At this time, the Prince of Wales was so much amended in health, that he was thought in a way of recovery. He resolved to accompany his father, and try to recover his territories.

“ The king assembled the lords, prelates, knights, and gentry of the realm; he made them swear to maintain the succession of Prince Richard, in case of the death of his father and grandfather. This ceremony being performed, he appointed the young prince guardian of the realm, in his absence.

“ The king and his three sons embarked, attended by a great number of English nobles. They were detained above a month by contrary winds, and finding that they could not reach Poictiers by Michaelmas, they returned to Winchelsea, and laid aside the enterprize for that reason. The Parliament assembled the beginning of November. Sir Guy Briant informed them, that the Prince of Wales had resigned the principality of Guienne into the hands of the king his father. That the revenue was not only insufficient to maintain

the

the war of that country, but even to support the ordinary expences of the government.

“ The lords and commons were so zealous for their king’s glory and interest, that they continued the ordinary subsidies, and granted besides a fifteenth of their revenues and moveables. These supplies came too late to prevent the loss of Poitiers, and Saintonge, which at the best, were unprofitable acquisitions to England, for they drained it of men and money.

“ The Constable Du Guesclin took the field early in the spring, after the reduction of Poitiers, and Saintonge, he took his progress through Bretagne, and reduced the greatest part of it.

“ John De Montfort, finding himself abandoned by the greater part of his subjects, took refuge in England, leaving the direction of his affairs in Bretagne to Sir Robert Knolles, whom he appointed his lieutenant there. After putting his own castle of Derval into a state of defence, he retired with Sir William Neville to Brest, which was able to sustain a siege, and firmly in the interest of its sovereign. The Constable invested Brest with six thousand men. At the same time he sent Sir Oliver De Clifton

Cliffon to besiege the Castle of Derval.—Both places were obliged to capitulate. Knolles conditioned to surrender Brest, if he was not relieved in forty days, in hope that the Earl of Salisbury would come to his assistance within that time, for he was then near the coast. He landed a few days after, and immediately sent an herald to the Constable, telling him he was come to relieve Brest, and demanding the release of the hostages, or else that he would give him battle. Du Guesclin answered, that he would fight him if he would come to Nantes, where the treaty was concluded.

“ The Earl replied, if the Constable would furnish him with horses to set his men upon, he would go to the world’s end to meet him; but otherwise he could not come to Nantes. No further answer was sent; the Earl remained in his camp till the term of the capitulation was expired, and then entered and relieved Brest, with men, provisions, and necessaries of all kinds. Du Guesclin immediately after sent the hostages to prison. Sir Robert Knolles repaired to his Castle of Derval, he refused the capitulation as made without his authority. The Constable threatened to be-
head

head the hostages in case of a refusal. Knolles vowed retaliation upon the French prisoners; both of them were as good as their word.— These skirmishing battles happened continually, without any ultimate advantage to either party.

“ By this time the Duke of Anjou and the Constable were summoned to Paris, to oppose the progress of the Duke of Lancaster, who, at the head of thirty thousand men, was ravaging the countries of Artois and Picardy without opposition. After many petty contests, taking and retaking cities and towns, both parties began to be tired, and agreed to a cessation of arms, at the instances of the Pope’s legates.

“ This was broken by the Duke of Anjou, but another truce was patched up till the first of May the following year, and in the mean time conferences for a lasting peace were held, but the Pope’s partiality to the French, was too evident to be successful in this great undertaking.

“ The next year a new army arrived from England. The Duke of Bretagne, by their assistance, recovered great part of his dominions; towards

towards the end of the campaign another truce was made, and turned into a convention.

“ I was in most of these late skirmishes ; those under the Duke of Bretagne had more the resemblance of battles, but they only encouraged a spirit of contention for trifles, and a sordid eagerness of private gain and advantage.

“ I had the good fortune to escape any dangerous wounds, and to avoid being taken prisoner, which I dreaded still more.

“ The Prince of Wales now relapsed into his former state of languor and decline ; it was evident to all men that he could not recover.

“ The eyes of the nation were opened . at once, they saw their situation. They saw the consequences of a ruinous and destructive war, the nation’s money wasted and gone, the blood they had shed all to no purpose, the fruit of their labours blasted ; their beloved Prince hastening to his grave, his son too young to govern.

“ They saw the great Edward sinking into dotage for an artful and infamous woman. Alice Perrers, a domestic servant of the late excellent Queen Philippa, and the wife of William Windsor. The King was so intoxi-

cated by the charms and arts of this woman, that he gave himself wholly up to her direction.

“He proclaimed a solemn tournament, in which she was stiled the Lady of the Sun, and presided at this entertainment. A grand procession rode from the Tower, through Cheap-side, and so to Westminster, in which the Lady of the Sun was placed in a triumphal chariot, attended by lords, knights, and ladies, who paid her the honours due to a queen.

“This, when compared with the former triumphs of the great Edward, appeared ridiculous and contemptible. But worse than this were her practices, she tampered with the courts of justice, and sold her favours to all who used her influence. Her avarice was insatiable; being sensible that her reign must be short, she used every means to amass riches. The king was so weak, as to give to this infamous woman the jewels and moveables of his late Queen Philippa. The royal authority fell into contempt. The reins of government were slackened, and the whole kingdom complained of misconduct and oppression. The people of England still respected their King, even in his failings.

failings. They remembered the lustre of his former conduct, the glories of his reign, and the vigour of his government; they bore with his infirmities, till the effects of them became pernicious to the commonwealth. The Parliament resolved at their next meeting to redress these grievances.

“ They met accordingly; great demands were made; they were sensible that much was wanting; but before they provided for the necessities of the government, they remonstrated upon the grievances of the nation. They complained of the embezzlement of the public treasure, the usurious contracts made by the king’s officers and servants, to the prejudice of the revenue. Offenders of high degree were accused of being concerned in these practices; some were convicted and punished. Among others, the favourite Madam Alice Perrers was accused; on her account an ordinance was made, forbidding all women, her in particular by name, to solicit business personally in the king’s courts of judicature. The prosecutions against her were followed up so closely, that she was actually banished the kingdom before the end of the session of Parliament.

“ During this interval, I resigned my company to my kinsman, Henry Morley, and returned to England, that I might see once more my most honoured and beloved father, who was now in the last stage of his disorder. I was at first refused admittance to him ; but a friend of mine mentioned me to him, and I was not refused any more while he lived.

“ Valeran Count de St. Pol was at that time prisoner in England ; he and I became acquainted, and contracted a friendship.

“ He went with me to visit my sister Adela, the living image of my departed mother ; she was still under the care of our Aunt, Lady Morley. He fell in love with her, and besought my influence to obtain her for a wife. I took an opportunity to mention it to the Prince. He readily consented to the marriage, and was pleased to see her disposed of while he yet lived. The marriage was immediately concluded, and celebrated at Sir Roger Morley’s house a few weeks before the Prince’s death. The Prince exerted himself on this occasion. He gave the Count de St. Pol a proof of his friendship and patronage. He proposed to exchange him for Sir John de Greilly Capital de Buche, one of his

his best beloved friends. He offered also a sum of money for his release. The King of France refused to release him, unless he would swear never more to bear arms against France. The noble gentleman replied, " Though I were sure to die in prison, I never would take such an oath."—The king was enraged at this answer, he refused to release him upon any terms, and he actually died in prison. The Count de St. Pol remained in England till the death of the King.

" Lord Spencer died some months before the Prince ; he was one of those heroes that honoured this reign by his exploits.

" In the course of this year the Jubilee of King Edward's reign was kept ; in consideration of it, the King granted pardons, graces, and immunities. He had before kept that of his age, a blessing that few monarchs have ever obtained.

" During the session of this Parliament, on the eighth of June 1376, being Trinity Sunday, died the most illustrious Edward Prince of Wales and Aquitaine, Duke of Cornwall and Earl of Chester, to the inexpressible grief and loss of the English nation ; admired, be-
F 3
loved,

loved, and lamented by all the world ; most of all mourned by those who best knew him, and to me a loss irreparable and unspeakable." Here Sir Roger Clarendon paused, being too much affected to proceed ; the company besought him to postpone the remainder of his narrative to a future day.

Two days after Sir Roger continued his narration:

"In the course of my history I have so often mentioned the noble qualities and high character of the Prince of Wales, that I need not now make a recapitulation of them.

"He was buried with all the pomp and solemnity due to so great a man, at the cathedral church in Canterbury, and a stately monument of grey marble erected over him, with an inscription, declaring his great actions and virtues.

"Charles King of France celebrated his obsequies in the most solemn manner, in the chapel of his palace at Paris, and lamented for him as for a near relation.

"John de Greilly Capal de Buche was so affected by his death, that he pined away, abstained

stained from sustenance, and died. The Prince signed his last will but a few days before his death, he honoured me so far as to name me in it, and gave me the furniture of a certain room in his house ; had he any other natural son, he would doubtless have then acknowledged and provided for him, but no such person was ever mentioned, or supposed, till after his death.

“The executors of the Prince’s will were, the Duke of Lancaster; William of Wickham, Bishop of Winchester; John Harwell, Bishop of Bath and Wells; William Spridlington, Bishop of St. Asaph; Robert Walsingham his Confessor; Hugh Seagrave, his Steward; Sir Allan Stokes, and Sir John Fordham, Knts.

“On the Midsummer-day, the same month of June, at the earnest request of the Commons of England, the young Prince Richard came into the Parliament, and shewed himself to the Lords and Commons. The eyes and hearts of all men were turned upon him; with many tears they acknowledged him as the only son and undoubted heir of his illustrious father. The Archbishop of Canterbury made a speech, recommending him to their favour. The Com-

mons, with one voice, required that he should be made Prince of Wales immediately. The Lords answered, it lay not in them, but in the king only; but they promised to address the king to that purpose.

“The King, at this time was sick and in deep sorrow, at Eltham. The Lords and Commons went thither with their petitions, and for an answer to this and the rest of them.

“Both Houses of Parliament, and all the great officers of state, attended the Prince’s funeral to Canterbury. As soon as they returned to London, and resumed their functions, the King created his grandson Richard Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and Earl of Chester. He invested him with all his father’s honours and estates, except those assigned to his mother for her dowry, and publicly declared him his heir apparent to his crown and all his dominions.

“This Parliament made many demands of reformation and regulations, which the King and his ministry disapproved. They tried to compromise the differences, but the opposition grew stronger; and the Duke of Lancaster, who
now

now governed the kingdom, put an end to the session.

“After the forms and ceremonies of the Prince’s creation and installation were over, I took frequent opportunities of paying my duty to him. I had some friends about his person who favoured my visits to him. One day I took the liberty to remind him that we had the same father, that I was bound to him by every tie of duty and affection, and I hoped he would have the goodness to give me a place in his memory, and to employ me in his service.

“He answered me graciously, “I do know you, Sir Roger, and I will bear you in my memory. My father bade me love you and take care of your fortunes : I will always obey my father’s orders.”

“My dear Prince,” said I, “I have no doubt of your good intentions, but I have enemies too near your highness, and they will strive to prejudice me in your esteem and affections.”

“Well, I know that too.—My father told me the Hollands did not love you, and bade me not listen to what they should say against you.—I remember, and observe it.”

“ And will you permit me to pay my respects
“ to you frequently ?”

“ As often as you please, Sir—you are my fa-
“ ther’s own son.”

“ He gave me his hand, I kissed it, and bathed
it with my tears ; he permitted me to embrace
him, and I withdrew, much affected by his good-
ness and sweetness of disposition.

“ I made use of his permission. I visited him
often, and endeavoured to ingratiate myself in-
to his favour. One day Sir John Holland came
in while I was with him ; he behaved rudely to
me ; he asked me what business I had with the
Prince. I answered, “ The same that you have,
“ Sir, and every other man who has the honour
“ to be related to him.”—“ Related ! yes, tru-
“ ly, the Prince would be finely attended, if all
“ that call themselves his relations were per-
“ mitted to intrude into his company.”

“ Yourself among them, Sir John, I hope.”

“ You should know your distance, Sir.”

“ I hope I do, without your instructions,
“ Sir.”

“ The Prince then said, “ Pray be friends,
“ gentlemen : you are both my relations, and I
“ love

“love you both alike.—You shall not quarrel
“in my presence.”

“The gentlemen about the prince interposed. They blamed Sir John Holland freely ; they told him, the prince permitted me to visit him, and he had no right to forbid me.

“The young prince repeated what he had said to me, that his father told him the Hollands did not love me, and bade him not listen to what they should say against me. Holland was confused and withdrew, stifling his indignation, which almost choaked him, and meditating mischief for me.

“I thanked the prince for supporting me, and retired soon after ; I continued my visits to the prince.—Whenever I met Sir John Holland, he gave me a look of contempt, and yet defiance, which I returned ; but we seldom spoke to each other.

“Soon after, the Princess of Wales desired of the king, that her son the prince might reside with her at Kennington, near Lambeth ; from whence he could easily come to London, to pay his duty to his grandfather, and to attend the council, to be instructed in the business of the state. This request being granted, threw

the prince entirely into her hands. She placed her own creatures about him, and kept from him all those whom she disliked. All men paid court to her, the Duke of Lancaster, and all the royal family among the foremost. The princess found it her interest to keep upon good terms with the duke, and he was very ready to do every thing she could require.

“ The impudent Alice Perrers returned to England, and made interest with those near the princess, that she would grant her her protection. She proposed to petition the parliament to reverse her sentence of banishment, under pretence that her trial was arbitrary and illegal, in which there was some truth ; for though she had deserved her punishment, the forms of law were not strictly observed.

“ The new Parliament was more compliant with the ministry than the former one ; they were ready to comply with most of the duke’s demands.

“ Though the parliament granted the supplies most liberally, the methods of raising them were too slow for the duke’s necessity. By his influence, the ministry demanded of the city of London a loan of four thousand pounds.

pounds. The city, foreseeing many bad consequences from this demand, refused to advance the money. The court and the ministry resented this refusal.—They removed the mayor, Adam Staples, from his office, by a special mandamus, and appointed Sir Richard Whittington in his place.—The city was provoked at this act, they resented this treatment, they prepared to defend their rights and privileges. The parliament was more complaisant; they reversed many uncourtly resolutions of the preceding parliament. They restored Alice Perrers to all her rights, privileges, and estates.

“ The citizens of London presented several petitions to parliament, concerning their rights, privileges, and trade, and their rights in the choice of a mayor, coroner, and other officers.

“ These petitions were disregarded by the Duke of Lancaster and the ministry, and the city was filled with clamour and discontent. The duke continued to provoke the city, by repeated acts of arbitrary power, till the populace rose, and threatened his life.—The duke and his friends hastened to Kennington, to advise with the Princess of Wales, who was now very popular in the city. She sent thither four
of

of her knights to expostulate with the rioters. They desisted at her command, but desired the knights to tell the Duke of Lancaster, that they expected the Bishop of Winchester, and Sir Peter De La Mere, should be tried by the laws of their country.

“ The mayor and aldermen sent a deputation to the king to assure him, they had used their utmost endeavours to prevent this disturbance. The king received them graciously, and accepted their excuses.

“ The Duke of Lancaster was so enraged at the presumption of the populace, and the justification of the magistracy, that he deprived the mayor and aldermen of their offices, and filled their places with his own creatures. These acts of arbitrary power gave a sad foreboding of the evil times to come.

The king seemed to recover his health and spirits; he came to London, and shewed himself to his people, who received him with acclamations of joy, as they were used to do in his better days. At the festival of Christmas he dined in public, and all men were permitted to see him. His grandson Richard was seated at his right hand, above all his children, and he
said

said aloud, " This youth must be your king
 " and master when I am taken from you,
 " which, by the course of nature, cannot be
 " long.—Love, honour, and obey him ; and
 " you my son, love your people, and they
 " will respect you."—A notion prevailed among
 the commons, that the Duke of Lancaster aimed
 at the crown. The king was informed of
 it, and took every method to check his ambi-
 tion ; and he was very unpopular from his ar-
 bitrary conduct. The people idolized young
 Richard for his father's sake ; the city of London
 paid him every mark of honour and affection
 in a most particular manner.

" On the first day of February, in the after-
 noon, four hundred of the first citizens, well
 dressed and mounted, attended by a band of
 music, all dressed in masquerade, rode through
 Southwark with innumerable torches attend-
 ing, and went to Kennington, to visit the
 Prince of Wales, and his mother, who were
 advised of their coming.

" First rode forty-eight, habited like esquires,
 in scarlet coats. Secondly, forty-eight, dressed like
 knights, in the same livery. Then one alone
 richly dressed, representing an emperor. Then
 one

one drest like a pope, with twenty-four cardinals attending him. At some distance twelve persons representing embassadors from foreign princes. Others as their servants and attendants. The rest of the cavalcade as gentlemen, attending the principal persons.

“ These masquers being arrived at Kennington, alighted from their horses, and went in the same order into the great hall. The princess came to them, leading her son, the lords and attendants following them. The masquers saluted them, and they returned it. One of them threw a pair of dice upon the table, and by signs, showed a desire to play with the Prince, who by his mother’s direction accepted their motion. The principal persons came forward, they threw one turn, and the prince another; but the dice were so contrived, that the prince always won. First, large sums of gold, then three rich presents, a bowl of gold, a large gold cup and cover, and, thirdly, a fine diamond ring.—Afterwards they by signs desired the princess to play with them, and she won a fine ring, and a large piece of plate :—Then they requested the lords and attendants to throw against them; and, in the same polite manner, presented them

them with valuable gifts ; and every one had a prize.

“ The princess ordered them wine and refreshments, their own band of music playing all the time ; after resting themselves for a time, they returned home again in the same order in which they came.

“ Such visitors, you will believe, were welcome ; others that were not so, the princess knew how to keep at a distance ; I was one of these ; once I was denied admittance, and I did not go to Kennington a second time. I watched the prince’s coming to London. I made it my business to see him there, and he always received him graciously. The king returned to Eltham after the holidays, the vile Alice Perrers got access to him there, she recovered her influence over him, and her detested cabal surrounded him, their business was to keep good men from his presence and councils.

“ The truce with France had been twice prolonged ; but they could not settle the terms of a lasting peace, and the truce was near its expiration.

“ The French threatened England with an invasion

invasion. Preparations were made to repulse them, and they were daily expected.

“ The French army marched to the sea-side as if to embark, but suddenly changing their route, they invested the strong fort of Outwick near Calais. The commandant, William Weston, surrendered with little opposition. Sir Hugh Calverly, then governor of Calais, retook the fortress, and ravaged the country adjacent, carrying a considerable booty into Calais.

“ I was tired of inaction ; I solicited employment ; I attended the Lord Beauchamp, and made myself some interest with him. Sir Hugh and Sir Peter Courtney were my friends. I got appointed to the command of a company going to Calais, to assist Sir Hugh Calverly ; but our embarkation was delayed by the death of the king ; he took a fever, which was attended with an eruption of a putrid kind, and carried him off in a few days. He died on the 21st of June, 1377, little more than a year after the death of his beloved son.

“ In his last hours, the harpies who had attended him, for the sake of the plunder, now forsook him, as a bankrupt no longer able

to

to support them. The ungrateful Alice Perers tore the rings off his fingers, and took away all the things of value out of his apartments.—A poor priest came to him, and finding him left alone, came and exhorted him to recommend his soul to God; he prayed with him fervently. The king lifted up his hands and eyes to heaven, pronounced the holy name of Jesus, and expired.

“Such was the end of Edward the third, one of the greatest kings that ever sat on the English throne. He was a great warrior, legislator, and prince; indisputably a great character, with as few allays as any that we hear or read of.

“His last moments left a serious warning to princes, not to suffer unprincipled persons to approach them, lest they be requited by the basest ingratitude.

“The Duke of Lancaster took upon him the office of regent.—The king's body was removed to Sheen, while preparations were making for his funeral, which was celebrated with great pomp and magnificence. His three surviving sons, John Duke of Lancaster, Edmund Earl of Cambridge, Thomas of Woodstocke, and
John

John Duke of Bretagne, his son-in-law, attended. All the peers and prelates of the realm, the great officers of state, and the House of Commons also, followed the hearse, which went through London, and to Westminster, where his body was deposited, with that of his Queen Philippa, as she had desired.

“ The nation mourned sincerely for the death of their king ; they again deplored the death of the prince his son, and the prospect of a ten years’ minority.

“ My hopes were buried in the grave of my royal father ; I was left alone in the world, a butt for envy, hatred, and malice, to empty their quivers in shooting against it.—In the interval between the king’s funeral, and the coronation of the young king, I went over to Calais with my company ; I was recommended to the notice of Sir Hugh Calverly, who honoured my credentials. I little thought at that time, that I should have the honour of being his son-in-law, which I now enjoy ; but I had the highest respect for his personal character. Sir Peter Courtney wrote to me at Calais ; he advised me to return as soon as possible, for that my
enemies

enemies were taking advantage of my absence, to exclude me from the king's favour, and cut me off from all hopes of preferment from him.

" I knew that my enemies would do every thing in their power to keep me from the king's presence, but I could not think what greater mischief they could do me. I trusted, that when the king should come to years of maturity, he would at least rank me among his faithful servants, and give me the same chance of meriting and obtaining his favour. He knew me to be his father's son, and had acknowledged the relation.

" I resigned my company to Sir Hugh Calverly, and recommended a deserving young man to succeed me; he was so kind to accept it, and I saw my friend in possession of it.

" As soon as I returned to London, I went to pay my duty to the young king; I was refused admittance at that time, but was ordered to call three days after.

" I prepared myself for repulses and affronts of every kind, but resolved to make one effort to engage the king's notice.

" On the appointed day, I presented myself before the palace. As I entered the first court,
I heard

I heard a voice say, "There he is—that is he!" another voice answered, "I will meet him." I traversed the court ruminating on what this should mean; presently a tall man came towards me; he had a vulgar boldness in his aspect, and I should have taken him for a freebooter, or a soldier of the lowest order.

"He came up to me, and offered to take my hand. I drew back.—"Who are you, sir, and what is your business with me?"

"It is my desire to be better acquainted with you, sir."

"I do not know you; I never saw you before, sir?"

"That is true, sir; but you will know me in future. My name is John Sounder, and I had the same father as you."—"That I beg leave to doubt, till you can give me better proofs than your assertion."

"It is equally true, whether you believe it or not; the lords Thomas and John Holland acknowledge me."

"Oh, then I begin to understand you. I suppose they have encouraged you to fabricate this story."

"They are my friends and patrons; if you do

“do not choose to acknowledge me, I care as little for you.”

“Very well, sir, I have nothing further to say to you now, my business is to pay my duty to the king.

“I past by him, and entered the palace. I went up the great stair-case, and through the gallery. Sounder followed me, muttering, “He would soon convince me that he was “admitted wherever I was.” I said nothing to him; but desired the gentleman in waiting to give me admision. He did so, and Sounder had the impudence to follow me into the presence-chamber.

“The king and several lords were there, and John Holland, but not his brother Lord Holland, who was ashamed of this impostor. I kneeled to the king, kissed his hand, congratulated him on his accession to the throne, and wished him a long and happy reign.

“Sounder imitated every action of mine, as a monkey mimics the actions of a man. I saw Sir John Holland laugh, and whisper to some of the company. I saw this was done purposely to affront me, and as a step to farther insults and injuries; I resolved to make
one

one effort to quash this bold imposture. "My
"lord the king!" said I, "this bold man pre-
"tends to be the son of your illustrious father
"and mine. Your highness will doubtless
"oblige him to prove his assertion, and if he
"cannot, you will banish him your presence."

"The king smiled and replied, "Sir Roger
"I acknowledge you to be the natural son of
"my father, but he might have other sons that
"we never heard of till now."

"My liege, it is impossible that such a man
"as the Prince of Wales, should leave a son
"behind him unacknowledged and unprovided
"for, he was too just a man to act in such a
"manner; it is an affront to his memory to
"make such a supposition."

"My brother, John Holland tells me he is
"convinced of it."

"Then he tells your highness, what he does
"not himself believe."

"Holland then spoke, "Do you dare to
"tell me so, sir."

"Yes, sir, I dare, and will maintain it with
"my sword upon you, or this your creature
"and dependant."

"Lord Mowbray then said, "Gentlemen,
"this

“ this is too much in the king’s presence, take
“ some fitter time for this discussion.”

“ It is here that I am affronted and brow-
“ beaten. My lord, I will take you for a
“ judge, and a witness in my cause.”

“ Sir Guischart D’ Angle spoke : “ I think
“ Sir Roger De Clarendon has some reason to
“ complain, to have an unknown, and obscure
“ man brought forward, and put upon equality
“ with him.”

“ Let there be a committee chosen to exa-
“ mine the pretensions of both these men, and
“ let a solemn decision be made.”

“ I thank you, sir, and embrace this refe-
“ rence.”

“ Sir John Holland said, “ In the mean
“ time, let them both be forbidden to come
“ into the king’s presence.”

“ I replied, “ I believe, sir, that will best
“ suit your purpose.”

“ The lords and gentlemen came round us ;
they advised us to retire, and promised, after
the coronation, our pretensions should be fairly
examined, and the impostor should be banished.

“ Thus Sir John Holland carried the point
he aimed at ; he drove me from the king’s pre-
sence,

fence, and played off the puppet he had made for this very purpose.

“ I was too much depressed and mortified to attend the coronation ; I saw a number of honours conferred, and none for me ; all my expectations blasted and cut off.

“ The king created his uncle, Thomas of Woodstock, Earl of Buckingham ; Henry Lord Percy, Earl of Northumberland ; John Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham ; Sir Guischar d’ Angle, Earl of Huntingdon.

“ The Earls of Marche and Arundel, the Lords Latimer and Cobham, Sir John Beauchamp, and Sir Ralph Stafford, knights-banners ; John Knivet, Ralph Ferrers, John Devereux, Hugh Seagrave, knights-bachelors. All these gentlemen, with the Bishops of London and Sarum, were, by the advice and assent of all the lords and prelates, assembled at this solemnity, appointed members of the king’s council : the lord-treasurer, and chancellor, were added to these, and the Duke of Lancaster at their head.

“ After the administration was settled, I applied to most of the lords and gentlemen ; I besought their patronage and protection ; I gained admission

admission to the Duke of Lancaster, and represented my grievances to him. He heard my story patiently, and, after a pause, he thus answered me : “ There may be some hardships in
 “ your case, Sir Roger ; I believe you to be my
 “ brother’s son ; as for the other, I know nothing
 “ of him, but he is protected by the Hollands.
 “ It is our interest to be upon good terms, I shall
 “ not break with them on your account. If
 “ you have any favour to ask on your own account, I will attend to it.

“ I only ask for justice, my lord ; I have been
 “ insulted and driven away from the presence
 “ of the king, who allowed me to see him
 “ whenever I would. Let this man’s pretensions be examined, and I submit mine to the
 “ same judges.”

“ I think the wisest thing you can do is to
 “ leave England for a time. Return to Calais :
 “ I will give you letters to Sir Hugh Calverly ; these things will blow over, and then
 “ you may return.”

“ I have not deserved banishment, my lord.
 “ I have not offended God, my king, or my
 “ country, why should I be driven away ?”

“ Then do as you please ; I have told you my

"determination."—So saying, he left me, and I saw him no more.

"I solicited the lords that our pretensions might be tried; a day was appointed; I attended the council; but Sounder did not appear. It was clear that his pretensions would not bear examination. Lord Beauchamp said, "It was folly
 "to examine into mine, all the world knew that
 "I was the acknowledged son of the Prince of
 "Wales, and was mentioned in his will as such,
 "which was sufficient proof."—I gained nothing by this sentence but what was known before.—I attempted to wait on the king, and was refused admittance.—I began to think on the duke's advice, and was inclined to follow it.

"I rode to Romford to visit a friend, with only one servant; on the road I met this John Sounder and two companions with him. I asked him, "Why he did not attend the decision
 "of the council?"—He said, "He would not
 "abide by their sentence."

"Then you shew that your claim will not bear
 "examination"—"That is according to what
 "people think of it; it is true, that I was not
 "publicly acknowledged by the prince, I can
 "tell you the reason. My mother was a woman
 "of

"of low degree, and beside she was married,
"and he was ashamed of the connection."

"You may be ashamed to throw such a
"stigma upon the memory of him you pre-
"sume to call your father. I deny the fact,
"and I will prove the falsehood upon your body.
"Dare you meet me?"

"Yes, if you were the devil I would meet
"you, and conquer you."

"I named the time and place where I would
"meet him. He agreed, and we parted; he went
"on to London, and I to Romford."

"I spent one night there, and returned the
"next day. I was surprised to meet a stranger
"in my apartment, in the habit of a pilgrim; he
"threw off his hat and cloak, and discovered
"Gilbert Palmer."

"I was rejoiced to see him, and enquired
"from whence he came. He answered, "From
"Clarendon. I obtained leave of the prince
"to inhabit the hermitage there, a week before
"he died."

"And what brings you to London, my good
"friend?"

"I came to visit you, sir, and to know your
"situation. I have thought of you by day, and

"dreamed of you by night, and you were never
"out of my mind; I dreamed you were in
"danger, and I saved your life."

"Your friendship makes you anxious for my
"safety; I thank you heartily."

"Ah my dear sir! what I have heard since I
"came hither, makes me fear that your dangers
"are more than ideal ones."

"We then entered into confidential dis-
"course; the more I disclosed my situation, the
"more he was alarmed for me; he advised me to
"leave the court, and the capital, and return
"with him to Clarendon."

"I am too young to turn hermit, my friend;
"I hope the world has something in store for
"me, that will one day or other make me
"amends for these disappointments."

"I thought so once, sir; but the world is a
"broken cistern that holds no water, it runs
"through as fast as you pour it in."

"It holds milk and honey for some people,
"Palmer, and I hope it will hereafter give me
"some of it."

"Your spirit is not broken however; I re-
"joice that it is not."

"I would not tell Palmer of my appoint-
ment

ment to meet Sounder till the time drew near. He insisted on accompanying me thither.

“ Three days before that appointed for my meeting Sounder, Mr. Palmer and myself, attended by my servant Richard Penry, went to Westminster, dined there, and returned in the afternoon; as we came within sight of Temple-Bar, we were talking of my situation, and consulting about my future conduct. I said, “ If
 “ our honoured lord the prince had lived till this
 “ time, things would have been different for
 “ me. I should have had my share in these pro-
 “ motions, and have been created Baron of
 “ Clarendon at the least; he had given me rea-
 “ son to expect it.”

“ At this instant, four men rushed out of some concealed place, and attacked us furiously. It was almost dark; but I thought I could distinguish Sounder to be one of them; he struck at me with a broad sword, and hurt my right shoulder; this was intended to disable me from defending myself: I shifted my sword into my left hand, and kept him at bay, and soon after recovered the use of my right hand, which had been benumbed, but not wounded. I then returned his blows with interest, and threw him
 G 4 down.

down. Palmer, on his part, behaved bravely. My servant was not idle. We defeated them, but could not take them prisoners as I wished.

"The lights from within the gate gave us imperfect assistance; at length, finding themselves worsted, they rode away. All of us were wounded, but none dangerously. My right arm began to grow stiff, and gave me much pain. We hastened home to my lodgings, and assisted each other to bed. Our wounds were only scratches, but my arm was disabled for some days.

"I made no doubt that Sounder was the assassin, and that he aimed at my right arm, in order to disable me from meeting him at the time and place appointed.

"I sent to several of my friends to come to my lodgings, to inform them of my late adventure, and to give me their advice how to conduct myself in future. Sir Peter Courtney, Sir Roger Beauchamp, Sir Thomas Knivet, Sir Ralph Stafford, Knights; John Seagrave, Alan Burwash, William Newton, Esquires. I sent to my uncle, Sir Roger Morley; but he was engaged in attending upon his father Lord Morley, who died soon after.

"I in,

“I informed these gentlemen of my past and present situation: of my late interview with the Duke of Lancaster, and of my assassination. I told them I was troubled about meeting my enemy on the day appointed, lest I should be unfairly treated, by men hired for these base and treacherous purposes. That I requested the company of my friends on this occasion; that they and their servants would go with me to see fair play. If Sounder should meet me fairly, which I did not expect, they would be honourable witnesses of my behaviour and his;—if he did not, they could testify that I came according to appointment, and my honour would be saved. Knowing the malice of my enemies, it was necessary to shew them I had friends that would stand by me. The gentlemen, with one voice, offered to go with me to the field. Sir Ralph Stafford said, it was not incumbent on me to meet so base an enemy, especially as I had not recovered from the blow I had received upon my arm. I answered, “I found myself able to meet a better man than Sounder, and he should not impeach my honour, though he had none to lose.”—Gilbert Palmer told the gentlemen, that the Duke’s advice to me was not to be re-
G 5
jected.

jected: that it would be the wisest step I could take to follow it: to accept his letters of recommendation, and go over to Calais: to pursue my travels as I had formerly proposed; and not to return till the King should have attained to maturity of reason and judgment, and should have taken the reins of government into his own hands. He would then judge of men's pretensions, and know whom to encourage, and whom to keep at a distance.

"I opposed his arguments; they were against my interest and inclination.

"Sir Thomas Knivet replied to me, "You talk like a young man, let one of more years and experience advise you. Sir John Holland is your enemy; he is son to the Princess: the King will not drive away his mother or her children. They must be always near him, they must have influence with him. By opposing them, you increase their hatred and malice against you, and consequently your dangers; they have even attempted your life; perhaps they may succeed another time.—Yield to the times, dear Sir: I second your friend Palmer's advice, and give it as my own."

I

"Most

"Most of my friends followed this opinion, and I was obliged to yield to it. They all resolved to attend me to the field, and I determined to depart soon after this affair was decided.

"On the day appointed I went to meet Sounder, attended by a strong party of my friends. We waited above an hour; at length three men appeared, muffled up in cloaks, with every mark of assassins. We surrounded them, and demanded their business there. One of them said, "We are the friends of Sir John Sounder, and we come to bring a message to his enemy, Sir Roger de Clarendon."

"Palmer said, Who made John Sounder a Knight?"

"He answered, "Those that had the power. Ask my Lord John Holland, and he can inform you."

"I believe, said Palmer, it was the same person that made him a Lord."—"It was one who has the will and power to do both."

"But the message," said I, "I am Roger de Clarendon."

"Then I am to tell you that Sir John Sounder is ill and confined, by the wounds he received from you last Monday."

“ Base, treacherous man ! he laid in wait to
“ assassinate me !”

“ The gentlemen spoke to the men ; they threatened them. They bade them tell John Sounder, that he was not out of the reach of the law, and expect that it would soon overtake him.—That the King should be told of his behaviour by those who had a right to speak to him, as well as Sir John Holland.

“ They said they could easily make them prisoners, but they would release them, to shew them, they feared neither them nor their base employers, whom they defied.

“ They then made an opening, and the men rode hastily away. My friends dispersed ; Palmer and I returned home.

“ He warmly supported his former opinion that I should go abroad directly ; and advised that I should immediately change my lodgings, while I was preparing for my departure. I drew up a memorial of my grievances, in which the late attack upon me was mentioned. The circumstances that followed it, the support of my friends, our meeting the men instead of Sounder, the message from him, and the whole of their behaviour. I declared that my life
was

was in danger from enemies that dared not meet me fairly.

“ I determined to follow the advice the Duke of Lancaster had given me. I besought his highness to fulfil his promise, in giving me credential letters to Sir Hugh Calverly, and to enable me to pursue my travels, as I had formerly proposed to do. The facts related were attested by Gilbert Palmer and Richard Penry. I waited upon the Duke of Lancaster, and presented my memorial. He promised to read it, and ordered me to call on him three days after. I did so, and he received me graciously. He commended my resolution, and promised me his protection. He gave me letters to Sir Hugh Calverly, and the other gentlemen in Calais, and the other towns still in possession of the English. I then prepared to depart the kingdom. Mr. Palmer went with me to Dover, and saw me embark with two servants only, Richard Penry, and James Altham. Palmer promised to write to me at Calais, and let me know all that might concern me ; and I told him I should send mine to Calais when I left it, which would not be immediately.

“ Thus I was obliged to quit my native country.

country like a criminal, and to avoid the malice and cruelty of my enemies.

“ Sir Hugh Calverly received me graciously, he shewed me many civilities : encouraged by his kindness, I told him the particularities of my situation, and the attacks of my enemies. He advised me not to make my grievances public.—

“ So long,” said he, “ as you are supposed under the protection of the Duke of Lancaster, and countenanced by the rest of the royal family, you will be treated with respect by all Englishmen ; but if it should be known that they set their faces against you, other men will do the same. I believe they have used you ill ; but you have not the power to retaliate, if you had the will. I advise you to take shelter against the storm, under the Duke’s recommendation, and let that be your protection while you remain here.—I will employ you in the king’s service, when opportunity offers, and make your residence here as easy as possible.”

“ I acknowledged the wisdom and goodness of this advice, and saw nothing better for me than to follow it. My letters from Palmer seconded it,

it, and told me there was no safety for me in England.

"I often went out with skirmishing parties from Calais, which were sometimes successful, and others the reverse.

"My banishment sat heavy upon me: I longed to return to dear England. I formed schemes of establishment. Sometimes I was, in idea, the second hermit of Clarendon, then ambition tore me away.—I would reside on my estate in Essex, and be a country gentleman.—This was too idle a life for me.—Then I would offer my services to some foreign prince.—I would distinguish myself as a warrior; I would make my enemies tremble at my prowess and renown: I would return home crowned with honours, and oblige them to do me justice.

"Thus I revolved a thousand schemes in my mind, without fixing upon any, and always returned to gloom and discontent. I wrote frequently to Palmer, desiring him to send me word when he thought I might venture safely to come to England. His answers were short, blunt, and discouraging.

"I sent my servant, Richard Penry, over at the end of the year, to receive my rents from
Sir

Sir Nicholas Basset. I desired him to ask Palmer, whether I might not come over incognito, under a feigned name, and to tell him, I wished much to consult with him. My messenger returned with letters from my friends, who advised me to stay abroad till the king should be of age; and they would remind him of me from time to time.

"Palmer's letter was much to the same purpose; but he added: "If nothing will deter you from coming over, do what you purpose; come under a feigned name; let me know the time, and I will meet you at Dover, or else send my nephew, John Seagrave, who desires to be recommended to you, and he shall conduct you to the hermit of Clarendon."

"The following Spring I wrote word to Palmer, that I should come under the name of Roland Bygrove; that I should be at Calais, ready to sail, as soon as I should hear from him. He answered my letter, and I sailed the next day, attended by Richard Penry only. Young Seagrave met me at Dover, with a letter from his uncle; he desired me not to stay in London, but come directly to Clarendon.

"I had

"I had let my beard grow, without reducing it into any form, as was the fashion of those days. I dressed myself as a Franklin, and laid aside all distinctions of a gentleman; but wore a short sword for defence, and a dagger under my waistcoat. Penry was known to be my servant: I ordered him to say to enquirers, that I was preparing to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, but was not yet set out. I took Seagrave with me in my walks in and near London, and shewed him all that was worthy of his notice as a stranger. I enquired, as a stranger would, after the news of the day. I learned, that Lord John Holland entertained a great many wild young men in his service, and that he made himself formidable to his enemies, and suspected by his friends.—That the king was furrounded by his mother's relations and their dependants; and none could gain access to him, but through their influence and recommendations.

"Finding the latitude of the court unfavourable to my health and fortune, I set out for Clarendon with Seagrave and Penry. We rode on hired horses; every man carried his own baggage, and the horse-hirer made the fourth of
the

the company. He took care that we went not too long stages; and we were under his guidance and direction, which made us two days longer on the road than was necessary.

"We went to the little town of Clarendon, where we discharged our horses, lay there one night, deposited our baggage, and the next morning walked to the park.

"We went directly to the hermitage, and found the good hermit at his morning orisons.— As soon as he saw us, he made signs for us to kneel with him; he gave thanks for our safe arrival; he prayed that heaven would protect us from all our enemies, and lead us to peace and salvation. He then rose and embraced us, and welcomed us to his cell.

"We gave him an account of our journey and adventures. He told us that David Howell lived at Clarendon, and that he often visited him, and enquired after me. That Howell had received orders from the prince, in his last illness, that as soon as he should receive tidings of his death, he should cause Queen-Manour to be shut up; and that the keys of both the houses, called King-Manour and Queen-Manour, should be carried to London, and delivered

livered up to the king.—David Howell obeyed this order, and carried the keys to London himself; he gave them to Lord Beauchamp, and they were by him delivered to the king.—A few days after, Howell was informed, that the prince had obtained of the king a pension of fifty pounds a year during his life.

“ This good old servant begged permission to reside near Clarendon, and was told he might go wherever he pleased. He bought a cottage in the town of Clarendon, and lived there with a niece, who took care of him. I rejoiced to see this good old man, who had often carried me in his arms, and who loved me as if I had been his child. He lamented the cruel necessity that had driven me into banishment, and now compelled me to visit the place of my nativity under a feigned name. We indulged ourselves in talking of my parents, and unavailing wishes of honour and happiness reserved for me.

“ After our gossipings were over, Palmer invited us to take a view of the improvements he had made around his habitation. He had cut vistas through the trees in different places, to let in the view of distant prospects. Just over
his

his hermitage he had erected a cross, and had cut out places in the rock that looked like ruined buildings; but the most curious of all his inventions was this: with the help of the young carpenter, who worked with him in finishing his habitation, he had chosen trees that were tall and straight. The bottom part was cut into a square pedestal, the upper was carried to the shape of an obelisk or pyramid, that ended in a point. When this was planed and smoothed, he wrote upon it, with a sharp iron instrument made red hot, and repeated it till the letters were as deep as he wished them.

“ There were many of these obelisks at unequal distances, covered with inscriptions to the memory of those great names that deserved to be immortalized in his opinion. One was inscribed :

To the glorious memory of Edward the III^d,
king of England, France and Ireland, the
best of princes.

To Philippa his most excellent and beloved
queen.

To Edward, Prince of Wales, their eldest
son, the hero of his age and country; ho-
noured, beloved and lamented by all men.

To

To Edward Plantagenet, his eldest son, who
was snatched from his parents' arms at seven
years of age.

May Richard, his surviving son, equal his
father in glory!

May his posterity reign and flourish!

"Another was inscribed to the Prince of
Wales, and his most famous knights and com-
panions, by name: the obelisk was covered with
them.

"A third was thus inscribed:

To Adela de Durefort, the most lovely and
beloved mistress of Edward, Prince of
Wales.

To their son, Sir Roger de Clarendon,

To their daughter, Adela, married to Vale-
ran Count de St. Paul,

Peace—Blessing—and Salvation!

Peace to the dead—Honour to the living!

Gilbert Palmer, the poor hermit of Claren-
don, consecrates this obelisk to their me-
mory—sweeter than all the spices of Arabia
Felix.

"A fourth was dedicated to his own family,
to his parents, to his aunt, to his sister and her
husband, and to their posterity.

"There

“ There were others in an unfinished state beside.

“ His subterraneous habitation was likewise much enlarged and improved. There were two sleeping rooms and a study, beside the outward room, which was both hall and kitchen. The furniture was rudely made, but neat and convenient; and there wanted no real necessary of life. Palmer loved his dwelling, and was grateful to Heaven for such a retreat. He carried me to Winchester, to visit his brother and sister. They treated me with kindness and hospitality, and desired me to take their son into my service, and make him my companion in all my travels and adventures.

“ I staid three months at Clarendon, which would have passed away pleasantly, had not ambition disturbed my repose. I thought it shameful for a son of the great Edward to pass his life in solitude and indolence. Palmer had made up his mind to his hermitage, and wished for nothing more. I made an excursion to the West of England; I visited the town where Bladud, the son of Lud, discovered those salubrious springs, that restore health and vigour to those who are affected with scorbutic disorders.

“ I ex-

" I extended my tour to Devonshire and Cornwall, and did not return to Clarendon till near the end of August. Previous to my excursion, I had sent Richard Penry with letters to my uncle, who by the death of his father was become Lord Morley. He had obtained the honour of knighthood for his eldest son, who had done nothing to deserve it ; and Lord Beauchamp asked for Henry Morley, who had deserved it.

" At my return to Clarendon, I received letters from my uncle, and my cousin Henry. Lord Morley advised me to reside abroad, till the bad influences were over ; but as I had ventured over, he and my aunt desired I would visit them before I went back to France.— Henry urged me to visit them ; said that he had much to say me, but little to write ; he professed the same friendship and affection he had always borne me.

" I told Palmer I should visit my uncle, and Sir Nicholas Bassett, before I left England ; and that I must leave Clarendon. He told me, the wisest thing I could do, was to go back to France as soon as possible. That I had cold friends, and warm enemies, who would never
rest,

rest till they had hunted me down. He advised me not to trust Roger Morley, nor to stay long at the house of his father; not to go to Sir Nicholas Basset's, nor let it be known that I was in England, but by all means to get away before the winter.

“ Young Seagrave brought a school-fellow of his to visit me, whose name was Bertram Clifton. This young man offered his services to me, and requested me to take him into my service, and he would attend me with his friend. I told him that I was a poor man, disappointed in my expectations, neglected by my friends, and persecuted by my enemies. That I had it not in my power to provide for others, for I had enough to do to support myself. Bertram said, “ He would bear his own expences, and serve me as faithfully as “ those who received money for it.” The frankness and generosity of this young man pleased me; I became attached to him, and he prevailed on me to let him accompany me. Seagrave was delighted that he was to be our companion, and soon after we set out on our journey to Lord Morley's seat in Hertfordshire. I sent Richard Penry forward to give notice

notice of my approach, and ordered him to announce me by my assumed name, and to desire they would speak of me by no other, while I resided there. My uncle and aunt received me with kindness, and entertained me hospitably; but still there was a something wanting to give a relish to my visit. Sir Roger was courteous and ceremonious, but cold as ice; Sir Henry was cordial and sincere; when the heart speaks your welcome, there is no need of many words. Lord Morley questioned me closely; he thought I must have given some offence to the Hollands and their mother, or they could never have taken so strong a dislike to me. I told him all that I knew of it myself; I spoke of the effects of their enmity, but protested I was ignorant of the cause; I told him what the prince had said to his son, a short time before his death, that he must not listen to the Hollands, when they should try to prejudice him against me, and I brought this as a proof of the injustice of their hatred against me. Fortified in my innocence, I presumed to hope, that when the king should come to years of maturity, I should obtain

justice at least from him, and perhaps favour in due time.

“ Lord and Lady Morley were inclined to believe all that I said ; but their eldest son was always insinuating something to lessen me in their esteem, which he did under the idea of friendship, always hoping that what he had heard against me was not true. Henry was frank and honest, he thought well of me, and he said so ; he said it was unworthy of a man of honour to speak ill of another behind his back ; that he should tell boldly what he had heard to my face, and give me an opportunity to vindicate myself. Sir Roger was offended ; and the brothers had frequent altercations on my account.

“ Lady Morley at times shewed a tender regard for me ; but when her eldest son was present, she suppressed it. Henry desired his parents to permit him to cross the sea with me, and he would return home whenever they should send their commands. He said, “ His brother “ had adopted the dislike of the Hollands “ against me, with as little reason ; but if “ ever he should gain access to the king’s ear, “ he would use all his interest in my behalf.”

“ I ac-

"I acknowledged his friendship and affection; but desired him never to hazard his own favour, in order to serve me.

"I staid six weeks at Lord Morley's; during this time, Sir Roger went to London and staid a fortnight; at his return, I took leave of the family, and departed. I had left my two young esquires at Hertford, and sent Penry to tell them to meet me on the road.—We crossed the country and went into Essex. I visited Sir Nicholas Bassett, in spite of Palmer's prognostics and warnings. I staid there one week only, and pursued my journey through the country down to Tilbury, where I crossed the Thames, and went to Canterbury, and from thence to Dover.

"I was agreeably surprised to find Sir Henry Morley there before me. He had solicited a company in the re-inforcement then going over to France, and was waiting for the arrival of the second division; the first were sailed. His father had given his consent, "and I perceive," said he, "that my brother can spare me, and that he will not lament my absence."

"I said, "I readily consented to wait his time, and would do so much longer, to en-

“joy the pleasure of his company.” The town was full of people, lodgings were scanty; I took my two young men into my apartment; they lay upon a mattrafs upon the floor in my chamber, with blankets to cover them.

“One night as we were going home to our lodgings, we were followed by two men, who seemed to watch our motions. They attempted to rush into the house before us, but Bertram intercepted them, and threw one of them down; I stopped the other, and a scuffle ensued; a third came up, he helped the first to rise, and they all ran off together.

“The next morning, as soon as we were out of our chambers, I mentioned the circumstance to the landlord, and he to the rest of the lodgers; one of them observed, that somebody had written with chalk on the outside of the house—“Sir R—C—lodges here.”—Seagrave and Clifton went to see it. They looked at me, and expected my orders. I went and looked at it; I smiled, and made light of it. As soon as we had taken our breakfast, I ordered Penry to wash the writing out; and went to Sir Henry Morley’s lodgings with my two friends. I told him all that had happened; that

that I suspected my enemies had traced me out, and that they sought my life. It was settled that I should lodge with him, and that my servants and friends should keep watch at my lodgings. I wished them to secure the assassins, and commit them to prison, and consign them over to the laws.

“ Sir Henry sent a file of men to watch before the door; this, in all probability, prevented their second attempt.

“ I staid at my cousin's lodgings three nights; on the fourth day all things were ready, and the ships sailed away. My friends and I were with Sir Henry Morley, and we all landed safely at Boulogne.

“ When the different parties were collected together, they marched into Bretagne, to assist the duke in the recovery of his dominions. I entered this army as a volunteer, and served some months in it; but my mind was unsettled; I was restless and uneasy, and my heart yearned after dear England.

“ The Duke of Bretagne offered me an establishment there, and promotion in his army; but I could not renounce my native country, which I thought was bound to provide for me.

"The following year I went through Brabant and Burgundy. I shewed my young men every thing worthy of their notice. I wrote often to my friends in England; but none of them encouraged me to come over for some time.

"About this time, the brave Sir Hugh Calverly was removed from the government of Calais, and employed in the naval department. This was only one of the innumerable errors of the ministry committed during the king's minority.

The Duke of Lancaster's talents, as a regent, were greatly inferior to those he had shewn as a general, and a warrior. He still encouraged the ambitious hope of wearing the crown of Spain in the right of Constance, his wife. He endeavoured to recover Guienne, because he wanted a passage through that province into Spain; thus he rendered the king's interest subservient to his own, and lost many opportunities of serving his country.

"The constable, du Guesclin, advised the king of France to detach the Duke of Bretagne from the interests of England. The king approved his advice: he sent du Guesclin with an army to check the progress of the English in Bretagne;

Bretagne; and, at the same time, ordered him to negotiate privately with the Duke. He laid siege to Chateaufort, which was bravely defended.

"During this interval, this great man fell sick, and died. The Duke had just begun a treaty; but the Constable's death rendered it abortive. France sustained a very great loss in him, and a still heavier in the death of her king, Charles the Fifth, which happened soon after.

"The Bretons were tired of their alliance with the English, whom they always considered as usurpers in France; they wished ardently to return to their old connexions. John de Montford owed the duchy of Bretagne to England, without whose assistance he would never have recovered it. Gratitude bound him to England, but his interest inclined him to France; and these were not easy to be reconciled. His subjects settled these points, by declaring they would not take up arms for him, but against the enemies of their country. They insisted on his offering a treaty of accommodation with France, which was speedily concluded. The Duke consented to do homage to the king of

France, and he was confirmed in the duchy of Bretagne, and the county of Montford.

“ These events passed before my eyes, and I could not help observing them; but nothing interested me deeply but what passed in England; my heart was affected by every incident there. I waited to see the character and temper of the young king unfold themselves: I expected their good effects upon the kingdom, and hoped to share in these advantages myself. The misconduct of the ministry always anticipated the revenue; and they were always needy and rapacious.

“ The Scots invaded Cumberland and Westmoreland, wasted the country round, and carried home a great booty. The Duke of Lancaster made an inglorious truce with these spoilers, that the king's forces might be at liberty to assist him in his attempt upon the crown of Castile and Leon.

“ The parliament met at Northampton: they took first into consideration the state of the nation, and the immense debts of the king. They found it necessary to raise new taxes; the Commons desired the Lords to consider how to do this with the least burthen and inconvenience

to

to the people. They proposed a tailage upon every individual, male and female, above the age of fifteen. This proposal was approved; the parliament established a poll-tax of three groats upon every person, to be collected by officers appointed for that purpose. It was suggested by some discreet persons, that this tax would fall too heavy upon the lower orders of people. To prevent this, the more substantial citizens were enjoined to assist the poorer sorts, and the landlords their vassals, in proportion to their estates. This tax raised such commotions in the kingdom, as were likely to have overturned the constitution and government. The lower orders of the people exclaimed bitterly against it; the clergy complained of it, and some of them preached such sermons, as excited a spirit of sedition in the people.

“ The king’s necessities were so importunate, that he could not wait till the money was collected in a regular way, but he farmed the tax to a set of rapacious men, who committed innumerable acts of oppression and violence that drove the people to desperation. The instruments of sedition seized the opportunity to inflame their passions, and instigate them to re-

bellion. The people, thus stimulated, conceived the absurd idea of preventing the approaching evils by pulling down the nobility and gentry, and reducing all men to an equality with themselves.

The insurrection began in Essex; they assembled in great numbers, armed with whatever weapons they could find; and some took the implements of husbandry as weapons of offence. They sent deputies into Kent and Sussex, desiring the inhabitants to join them, and help them to reform the state, and abolish all taxes. A peasant, called Watt Tyler, headed the Kentish men, being provoked by an indecency offered to his daughter by a collector of the new tax. The spirit of mutiny spread through Surry and Sussex to Herefordshire, and to Suffolk and Norfolk.

“ The government, the nobility and gentry, neglected and despised this insurrection at first, thinking the mob would soon disperse, till at length they grew formidable to them. All the idle and discontented, the profligate and desperate, resorted to them from all parts of the kingdom.

“ They

“ They pulled down the houses of the nobility and gentry ; they killed all the lawyers they met with ; they burned all the court-rolls and records, and obliged all men to swear to be true to King Richard and themselves only, and to abolish all taxes. Watt Tyler was at the head of the Kentish men, Jack Straw of those of Essex ; who with the men of Surry and Sussex, were gathered to an hundred thousand men ; and they advanced to Blackheath in battle array, with banners displayed.

“ The king sent messengers to meet them, and enquire what were their demands.— They sent for answer, that they were come to confer with the king on matters of great importance, and desired that he would come and meet them.

“ The king promised to meet them ; and he actually crossed the Thames to give them satisfaction, attended by a considerable body of men with their officers, and some of his privy counsellors. As soon as the rebels saw the king approaching towards them, they sent a party of men towards the river, to intercept his return. The Archbishop of Canterbury and Sir Robert Hales perceiving their design, hastened the king away, and carried him back to

the Tower of London, with all possible expedition.

"The insurgents exclaimed, "Treason! treason!" But finding their design frustrated, they entered the city, plundered several houses, killed some persons, and committed many acts of violence. The next day they were joined by part of the city populace; they attacked the palace of the Savoy, and levelled it with the ground, destroyed the furniture, and melted down the plate. From thence, they went to the Temple, where they burned all the books, papers, and records; and, finally, destroyed the building. From thence, they marched to the priory of St. John, Clerkenwell, which they treated in the same manner.

"After these exploits, they divided into three separate bodies: one took the rout to Heybury, where they pillaged and burned a magnificent house belonging to the knights of St. John.— A second posted themselves on Mile-End green, and the third was stationed at St. Catherine's, and on Tower Hill. The party at Mile-End sent a message to the king, desiring to see him immediately, otherwise they would pull down the Tower, and put him to death. The garrison
in

in the Tower were sufficient to have defended it against such an undisciplined body of men, but they were seized with a general panic, and knew not how to manage their arms.

“King Richard took the manly resolution to go and meet the rebels, to prevent farther mischief. He set out to Mile-End with but few attendants, but many others overtook him on the way, and every man that heard it, hastened after him. He spoke to the rebels with equal courage and affability. He told them he was come there in compliance with their request; that he was their king, who desired to know their grievances, that they might be redressed. They presented him with a paper of their demands, and told him he should be detained till they were granted under the great seal. These demands were unreasonable; but there was no safety in refusing them.

“The King told them he would grant their requests, on condition that they would return quietly to their own habitations, and leave only two or three of every parish to receive the charters of freedom; which were drawn up immediately, and sealed the next morning. These being

Being delivered, the peasants of Essex and Hertfordshire dispersed immediately.

“King Richard had no sooner quitted the Tower, than the body of men posted in that neighbourhood, rushed into the city without opposition; they seized and beheaded the Archbishop and Sir Robert Hales; murdered fifteen other persons in cold blood, and treated the king's mother with indignity. The cowardly army at the Tower stood terrified and inactive, without opposing these brutal outrages.

“The citizens of London now began to recover themselves from their consternation, and raised men to oppose the insurgents; Walworth, Mayor of London, assisted by the gallant Philpot, led them on to defend their king.

“Mean time the king sent a message to Watt Tyler, offering him the same charters which had satisfied the men of Essex and Hertfordshire. This ferocious plebeian had formed the savage design of murdering the King and nobles, and creating a popular despotism on the ruins of the constitution. He received the King's messengers with pride and insolence, and told them he would consent to a peace, provided he liked the terms. Three charters were
offered

offered and rejected in the space of a few hours. Richard invited him to a conference, and rode towards Smithfield to meet him. Sir John Newton told him the king was waiting for him, and desired him to mend his pace. This proud demagogue answered, he should move as he thought proper. When he approached the king, he did not alight, nor did he shew any mark of respect to him.

“Sir John Newton blamed the indecency of his behaviour. The ruffian drew his dagger, and made a motion as if to stab him; Newton drew his, and stood on his defence. The king interposed, and ordered Sir John to deliver up his weapon. Tyler seemed disconcerted by the presence of his prince. He eyed him with a gloomy frown.—His hands shook, and his countenance spoke distraction. His demands were so extravagant, and made in such unconnected phrases, that the king could not understand his meaning, nor reply to his proposals.

“They both meant to gain time: Tyler expected a reinforcement from Hertfordshire, and the king knew that Sir Robert Knolles was coming to his assistance at the head of a thousand veterans. Walworth and Philpot came to him,
and

and kept near his person. The bold rebel meditated mischief, but seemed undetermined on the method of doing it.—He lifted up his dagger, as aiming a blow at the king; Walworth rode up to him immediately, and stunned him with a blow of his mace; Philpot thrust his sword through his body and decided his fate. He fell from his horse and lay dead on the spot.

“His followers cried out, “Our captain is dead, let us revenge his death.”—They bent their bows for that purpose, when the king rode up to them with admirable presence of mind, saying, “What would you have, my liege?—

“Have no concern for the death of that traitor; I will be your captain, follow me, and “I will grant you all your reasonable desires.”

They were so struck with the magnanimity of the young king, who was not quite sixteen years of age, that they unbent their bows, and followed him, as it were involuntarily, into the fields of Islington. By this time, Sir Robert Knolles came in with his band of veterans, and some thousands more of the Londoners, who joined Walworth and Philpot.

“This fight completed the overthrow of the insurgents; yet they kept in their ranks, and seemed to wait the event.

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"The king offered them a general pardon, and the same charters of enfranchisement which he had already granted to their companions; upon which they all fell on their knees, and submitted.

"Sir Robert Knolles and his officers proposed, that some hundred of them should be put to the sword, as a terror to all others; but the king would not hear of it. He said, "I have passed my word to be their leader and friend, and I will not go from it." However he ordered a proclamation that none of them should be admitted within the walls of the city.

"The next day they received their charters of enfranchisement; soon after they dispersed, and returned to their respective habitations.

"The behaviour of the king in the whole of this business was so right and prudent, he shewed so much courage and clemency, that all his followers were transported with joy and tenderness: They pronounced him worthy of his renowned forefathers, and pleased themselves with hopes of a glorious reign.

"I was delighted to hear so much good of the king; I enjoyed his praises as if they were my own,

own, and hoped one day to be near his person, and to rejoice in his virtues.

“ There were insurrections in different parts of the country, but at length they were all happily quelled, and the king allowed the ringleaders to be tried and punished, as examples to others, and after some time public quiet was restored.

“ I shall not enter so deeply into the public transactions in future; they are recent in the memory of every one living. You know too well that the hopes conceived of King Richard were destroyed by his subsequent conduct. A turbulent minority was succeeded by a weak and frivolous manhood; yet he had no bad intentions, nor was he naturally inclined to tyranny; but he could not bear check nor opposition; like a fondled child, he thought those his enemies who noticed his errors, and resented corrections as real injuries.

“ The nation ardently wished for his marriage, and that he might have heirs that should remove all contests about the succession of the crown. But this wish was not soon gratified: several ladies were proposed, but without effect. Richard shewed no impatience nor disappointment.

ment. At length a marriage treaty was concluded between him and the Lady Anne, sister of the Emperor Wenceslaus. This lady's high birth was to stand in lieu of her fortune: the ambassadors were so impatient to see their king married, that they hastened the conclusion. Her brother, the Emperor, stipulated for a loan of eighteen thousand marks to be remitted when the princess should arrive at Calais, and the ambassadors agreed to this absurd demand.

"The queen arrived in London a few days before Christmas; on New Year's Day 1382 the nuptials were solemnized; a few days after she was crowned with great pomp in Westminster Abbey; great feasting and solemn tournaments were held upon this occasion.

"My heart burned to be present at these solemnities; and, in spite of all reason and remonstrances, I resolved to be there incognito. I prepared a suit of black armour, my colours were scarlet and black, as were also the plumes on my helmet: my sword had been given me by my father, and I believed it, like him, irresistible: my device was a torch reversed, and recovering its light; the motto, *Depressus resurgat*. I encountered several knights with success;

cess; I won many rewards: I overthrew Lord John Holland, and could have taken his life; but I spared mine enemy, and bade him return my treatment, by doing justice to others.

"All the company enquired who I was, but I would not tell. At length the king sent for me, and asked who I was. I answered; "one that lived only for his honour and service, and, whenever he should call upon me, and set me in my proper place, he would find me grateful and faithful."

"I lifted up my vizor, and showed my face to the king only; he gave me his hand, and said, "Sir Roger, why do I not see you oftener?"—I kissed his hand, and answered, "Because, my liege, your brothers have driven me away from you, and set a rascal in my place, to their dishonour and my injury."—The king said, "Think no more on that, but let us see you at court."

"I resolved to obey him at the hazard of my life. John Holland was bruised by the fall from his horse, and did not appear at court for several days. I went there without meeting any affront, and the king honoured me with

his

his notice ; he presented me to the queen, and told her who I was. I employed Sir Ralph Stafford to inform the queen of the injuries I had received from the Hollands, and to solicit her to extend her favour and patronage to me ; hoping that the influence of a wife, would set aside that of a half brother.

“ When Lord John Holland heard of my reception at court ; he raved like a madman, and threatened revenge against me ; nothing could subdue his savage hatred ; and every act of merit on my part seemed to increase it.

“ I was warned by letters and messages from my friends, of his malicious intentions towards me, and advised me to return to the continent, in order to escape them ; my two esquires were urgent with me to go to Clarendon with them, to visit my friend Palmer ; but I determined to go back to France for a time, and when it was known that I was gone out of England, to return incognito, and then to visit Clarendon.

“ France was at that time exposed to all the inconveniences of a long minority. Lewis Duke of Anjou, the eldest uncle of the young King Charles the sixth, oppressed the people
by

by excessive taxes, and produced insurrections in many places. His brother the Dukes of Burgundy and Berry, refused to join in his measures, and this caused dissensions and disorders in all parts of the kingdom. The English government thought this a favourable juncture to intimidate France, and to gain an advantageous and permanent peace.

The parliament would not grant the means to raise such an armament as the ministry proposed, but the merchants of the western coast offered to fit out and maintain a fleet for their safeguard and defence, which was accepted.

“ The Duke of Lancaster never lost sight of his claim upon the crown of Castile ; he used every means to obtain money to pay his army ; he attempted to borrow of the parliament, but they refused him ; and when they voted a subsidy for the defence of the realm, they expressly declared, that they would not involve the kingdom in a quarrel with Spain on any pretence whatsoever.

“ There was at that time a schism in the church, and two popes ; the princes of Europe took different sides, and the contention lasted several years. Every one knows the ridiculous
crusade

crusade of the Bishop of Norwich, and the ill success of it.

“ The Duke of Lancaster got himself appointed lord lieutenant in Guienne, he applied the money raised, to defend the province to his own purposes. He made an alliance with the King of Portugal, and marched an army into Spain.

“ By his imprudent conduct abroad and at home, he made himself suspected by the king, and he was actually accused of a conspiracy against him. He found means to extricate himself from all these difficulties, and still persevered in his pretensions to the Spanish crown.

“ King Richard in the mean time squandered away his revenues, and was continually in want of money, surrounded by sycophants and parasites, engaged in perpetual riots and revelings, granting every thing in his power to unworthy favourites, he rendered himself cheap in the eyes of his people.

“ The Hollands maintained their influence about ; him instead of checking his indiscretions, they flattered his weaknesses ; such counsellors are the bane of princes.

“ I visited England every year, but always incognito.

incognito. I might have been engaged in the service of the King of France ; but nothing could ever detach me from dear England.

“ My enemies at length discovered my retreat, they made several attacks upon my person. I changed my name several times, in order to deceive them ; and made the hermitage of Clarendon my best and safest retreat.

“ Lord John Holland kept a great number of desperate and dissolute young men in his service ; depending upon his influence with the king, they committed many audacious and mischievous actions.

“ Emboldened by success, they at length assassinated Sir Ralph Stafford ; the king and all his friends were struck with horror and resentment at this base action ; the king ordered Sir John to be sent to prison, and swore that the law should take its course.

“ Palmer’s apprehensions on my account increased every day, he insisted that I should return to France. I had promised to visit Sir Nicholas Basset before I left England, and I was resolved to fulfil it. Mr. Palmer made me promise him to keep a studied silence to every doubtful or suspicious person ; he or-

dered my two companions to say to all enquirers that I was dumb ; I laughed at his precautions, but found them of service to me. I left Seagrave with his relations at Winchester, and went forward, attended only by Mr. Bertram Clifton, and Richard Penry. Bertram enforced Palmer's injunctions, and made me observe them.

“ I paid my visit to Sir Nicholas Bassett, and though urged by Bertram to go directly to France, I confess, that I protracted my stay unnecessarily ; at last I took leave of my friends, and went to visit an old servant of my father's. In my way, I went through a wood, a fatal one it had like to have been to me. I was attacked by three men, one of whom I think verily was John Sounder, my pretended brother, but indeed my enemy and assassin. They left me, upon seeing Bertram and Richard coming towards me, and thinking they had perpetrated their vile intentions.

“ You ladies know all that followed ; Heaven directed you to my assistance, and to an happiness above my deserts, and a recompence for my sufferings and misfortunes.

“ You know what has happened to me since that time ; Lord John Holland is now Earl of Huntingdon ; Lord Thomas is Earl of Kent, in right of his mother. They are, in appearance, reconciled to me, and I think my enemy will not soon venture another assassination, though I do not not believe he will love me better than he has done hitherto.

“ Heaven has removed from this mortal stage my most powerful enemy in the king’s mother ; Heaven forbid that I should rejoice in her death, and yet I cannot but think it was retributive. May she rest in peace for ever !— The king has promised to take me with him to Ireland ; I am dependant on him, and I wait his orders.”

Here Sir Roger De Clarendon ended his narration, and they congratulated him and themselves on his escapes from so many dangers, and became one of their family. The week following they separated. Lady Calverly and her daughter, attended by Sir Roger and Clement Woodville, returned to Eglantine Bower ; and there experienced the sweets of retired and domestic happiness, such as is unknown to cities, and to courts.

“ Mr.

“ Mr. Woodville returned to Calverly Hall, and made it his home, but often visited at the bower, and continued his services to Lady Calverly upon all occasions ; he became necessary to her ; she called him her right hand, and did nothing without consulting him. Sir Roger omitted no opportunity of commending him to my lady, and he made approaches insensibly to the great object of his wishes.

“ Sir Roger’s two faithful esquires gave him a constant and regular account of all that passed in the capital, and at court. From them he learned, that John Holland, Earl of Huntingdon, was married to the lady Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Duke of Lancaster, and the family connexions were closer than ever. The king was lavish of honours and titles to undeserving persons ; the nation were offended by them ; but they allowed of those conferred upon his own family, and their alliances.

“ Thomas of Woodstock, Earl of Buckingham, was created Duke of Gloucester ; John Holland, Duke of Exeter ; Thomas Holland his brother, Duke of Surry ; John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk ; Henry Earl of Derby, Duke of Hereford ; John Beaufort, natural

son of the Duke of Lancaster, Earl of Somerset ; Thomas Percy, Earl of Worcester ; William le Scroope, Earl of Wiltshire, and many others.

Among all the distributions of titles and honours, not one would fall on the head of Sir Roger De Clarendon, though the king well knew, that his father designed him Earl of Clarendon ; but his enemies kept possession of all the avenues to the royal ear, so that neither his undoubted relation, nor his real merit, could ever obtain for him an higher office, than that of gentleman of the king's bed-chamber, and a small pension from the king.

“ The time approached, when the lovely Mabel was to experience the penalty laid upon the first mother of the human race ; she had enjoyed several happy months in the society of her beloved husband, and all those most dear to her, and thought her past sufferings light, in respect to her present happiness.

“ At length the king resolved on going to Ireland ; Sir Roger was summoned to attend him, and given a company in the service. There was a grievous parting between him and his lady ; but both exerted their fortitude and resolution.

“ It was resolved, that Mr. Clement Woodville should hold himself in readiness to follow Sir Roger, as soon as he could bring tidings of his lady’s safe delivery.

“ Nineteen days after the departure of her husband, Lady Clarendon was safely delivered of a son ; and on the following day, Mr. Woodville set out for London.

“ The king and his army were on their march, and Clement rode after them, and overtook them at Milford Haven ; he was a most welcome messenger to Sir Roger, who received him with the utmost joy and tenderness ; he would fain have persuaded him to go with him to Ireland ; but Clement excused himself as having no appointment, and beside, he could better serve him in England, by attending to his concerns at home, and sending an account of all that were most dear to him. Sir Roger took the most affectionate leave of Clement ; he charged him with letters to all his friends, and to his wife and lady Calverly. Clement attended him to the port, he saw them embark, and then set out on his return.

“ King Richard behaved in Ireland, as his best friends wished him to do ; he terrified the

rebellious by his army ; and when they submitted, he treated them with great clemency ; he pardoned all who asked it, and granted pensions to several of their chiefs. O'Neal, who pretended to be the superior of all the nominal princes of Ireland, offered his allegiance to King Richard, reserving to himself a kind of ideal sovereignty, which the king did not think it worth his while to dispute.

“ His example was followed by O'Hanlon, O'Donnel, and all the other chiefs ; who engaged for themselves and their clans, that they should not disturb the peace of the kingdom.

“ Richard invited all the chiefs to an entertainment at Dublin, during the festival of Christmas ; he treated them with royal munificence ; conferred upon them the honour of knighthood, and encouraged them to adopt the English customs, habits, and manners.— He summoned a parliament at Dublin ; he heard with patience all their grievances, and redressed them. He removed all those officers by whom they had been oppressed and injured, and gave satisfaction to all the nation ; in short he behaved with such lenity and prudence, as conciliated the affections of that brave and gene-

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rous people ; and far the greater part of them submitted quietly to his dominion.

“ The virtues of King Richard depended upon his counsellors ; when they were wise and good, he was the same ; he was attended to Ireland by his uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, the Earls of Marche, Nottingham, and Rutland. Sir Roger De Clarendon had daily access to him ; he rose in his favour, and entertained hopes, that he would at last give him an honourable and permanent establishment.

“ The Duke of York was appointed guardian of the kingdom during the king's absence ; he convoked the parliament in January.

“ The Duke of Gloucester was sent over from Ireland to manage the interest of the king ; he gave an account of his proceedings ; the parliament approved his conduct, and granted a subsidy, that he might finish the reduction of Ireland.

“ About this time, the disciples of Dr. Wickliffe were become numerous ; they were called Lollards in derision. Under the protection of some powerful nobleman, they impeached the doctrines and morals of the clergy of the Romish church ; they in return persecu-

ted their enemies. The Lollards presented a remonstrance to government ; praying permission to enjoy liberty of conscience, and that they might not be persecuted for their opinions.*

“ The clergy brought a charge against them into parliament, for fixing libels upon the doors of churches. The friends and patrons of the Lollards defended them, and complained of their persecutors.—The Archbishop of York, and the Bishop of London, alarmed at this defence of them in Parliament, made a voyage to Dublin, where they represented the Lollards to the king as dangerous enemies to the church and state.

“ They practised the arts of insinuation so effectually, on the weak and jealous mind of King Richard, that he abandoned the fair prospect of reducing all Ireland, and returned home immediately, in order to crush these innovators, so dangerous to the king and the people. He gave permission to threaten them with death, if they persisted in their errors ; and the Chancellor of Oxford, was ordered to expel all those who were suspected of favouring their opinions.

“ While

“ While the Duke of Lancaster was negotiating a treaty in France, his wife Constance of Castile died in England. Her death was followed by that of the Countess of Derby, their daughter-in-law, wife of Henry of Bolingbroke, the duke's eldest son. These ladies were not long survived by the queen ; she was lamented by the whole nation, and called, “ The good Queen Anne.” These events happened before the king's expedition to Ireland. He was deeply affected by the death of his queen, and went over the more willingly to divert his mind from his grief. Before he went from London, he declared Edmund Mortimer, son of the late Earl of Marche, presumptive heir of the crown.

“ Many were inclined to the Duke of Hereford and Derby ; but the chief nobles of the kingdom, ardently wished the king to marry again, and that he might have heirs of his own body, and take away all cause of dispute concerning the succession.

“ The king's return from Ireland, set Sir Roger De Clarendon at liberty to return to Eglantine Bower ; with transports of joy he beheld his wife and son, and paid the warmest

acknowledgment to her relations, for their care and affection to them. He enjoyed several months of felicity undisturbed; during which, he established his household, and carried his wife to his house in Essex; her mother and sister accompanied her thither. Sir John and Lady Calverly came to them; and never was seen a happier family, nor one more united in affection and harmony.

“Mabel, had now a cast of care over her lovely countenance; Edith observed it, and reproved her for it. “Alas! my sister,” said she, “my dream often recurs to me, and as it “has been fulfilled hitherto, I look for the remainder of it; this interval of happiness “makes me the more fearful of the reverse.”

“Heaven in its wisdom and goodness, conceals from us the future,” replied Edith, “let us enjoy the present good, and leave future events in the hands of Providence.”

“Lady Clarendon confessed that her sister was right, and yet she could not put aside her apprehensions. The levity of her youth was at an end, she was become a careful and most tender wife and mother, strictly attentive to all her duties, and daily preparing herself to endure
whatever

whatever misfortunes and afflictions might be in store for her.

“ Mr. Clement Woodville was not present at this family meeting, he was employed in the service of Lady Calverly the mother, to whom he had made himself necessary; infomuch that she did nothing without his advice and approbation.

“ When the two families of Calverly returned home; Sir Roger and his lady were left to their private conjugal happiness, and the time they spent together was by both reckoned among the most valuable part of their lives.

“ Sir Roger made frequent journeys to London, to pay his court, and cultivate his interest with the king. It gave him great concern to see him relapse into all his errors and follies, and to see his character stamped with incurable frivolity.

“ The nation was impatient for the king to marry; a match was proposed with the Princess Isabella, eldest daughter of the King of France; commissioners were sent over to negotiate this marriage, and a treaty of peace.

“ Many objections were raised by the wisest men of both nations; they said it was absurd

and unnatural to propose the marriage, before the treaty of peace was concluded. The English were dissatisfied that the king should marry a child just eight years old ; it threw their hopes and expectations back to a distant period. The Duke of Burgundy promoted the match, as the most likely expedient to consolidate a lasting peace.

“ The king of France approved the proposal, and finally the marriage was agreed on ; and the truce was prolonged to five years more.—King Richard resolved to go to France, and wed the princess in person ; great preparations were made for the voyage, and the marriage ceremonies.

“ The king had other motives beside the marriage, for crossing the channel. He intended to consult his father-in-law, on measures for surmounting the opposition of his subjects, and for humbling the pride and ambition of the Duke of Gloucester, who opposed every measure of the king. He was so popular, that the king dared not conclude the treaty without his concurrence, though he secretly envied and hated him.

“ The

“ The Duke of Gloucester’s aversion to this marriage, proceeded partly from a true regard to the interest of his country ; but he had been disappointed of his ambitious design of marrying the king to his own daughter ; he proposed it, and the king declined it, under the pretence of consanguinity. Richard was well acquainted with the Duke’s disposition. He offered him a large sum of money for himself, and for his son the Earldom of Rochester, with a pension of two thousand pounds a year.

“ Gloucester was caught by this bait, all his patriotism subsided, and he was reconciled to the treaty of marriage, and the king lavished away the nation’s money, though he knew it was granted reluctantly, and he knew not how to raise more.

“ The two kings met under a magnificent pavilion, between Ardres and Calais, each attended by four hundred guards ; when the treaty was concluded to their mutual satisfaction.

“ The ceremony of marriage was performed at Calais by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Then Richard returned to England with his bride ; on the 7th of January following her coronation was solemnized at Westminster.

“ The

“ The people of England were discontented with the prodigality of the king, and the profligacy of his court ; the Duke of Gloucester fomented these discontents ; the king had duped him by promises he now refused to fulfil ; his resentment was the more dangerous, as he governed the council entirely.

“ The Duke of Lancaster had lost his credit and influence by marrying Catharine Swinford, an obscure woman, who had been a servant of Queen Philippa. She had been retained as governess to his daughters by his first wife ; had been kept as his mistress during the life of his second lady, and had borne him four illegitimate sons and a daughter. The Duke's intention was to legitimate these children, by his marriage with their mother.

“ He obtained a bull from the Pope for this purpose ; but it gave high offence to all the princes of the blood and their wives, who could not bear to give precedence to a woman of low birth, and who had been for many years the duke's concubine. He was exposed to many affronts and insults, which he bore patiently, hoping that time would reconcile him to his relations.

“ The

“ The true character of princes is always known by their actions, and according to them will be their estimation with the public.

“ John Holland, Duke of Exeter, was a man of loose morals, capable of kinds of mischief towards those he deemed his enemies. He hated the Duke of Gloucester, and missed no opportunity of doing him ill offices with the king ; he insinuated that he was engaged in a conspiracy against his life, and Richard believed it.

“ The king communicated this intelligence to the Dukes of Lancaster and York, who earnestly endeavoured to cure the king’s jealousy and fears of their brother. He endeavoured to prevail on them to join in a violent prosecution of Gloucester ; but they refused to join in any measures against the life or honour of their brother, and they retired to their houses in the country.

“ Sir Thomas Percy resigned his office of steward to the household, and withdrew from the court, which seemed abandoned to dissipation, riot, and imprudence.

“ King Richard was left wholly to the management of wicked, and ignorant counsellors,
who

who persuaded him there was no other way to prevent his own ruin, but by the destruction of the Duke of Gloucester.

“The duke was too powerful to be publicly apprehended, and the ill-persuaded king used a fatal expedient to do it by private treachery. In his own person he decoyed him from his house at Pleysham, Essex, as far as Epping Forest, where a company of armed men lay in wait for him. They rushed out and seized him, while the king and his domestics rode off another way.

“The men in ambush seized on the unfortunate prince, conveyed him to the river, and put him on board a ship, which weighed anchor immediately, and sailed away; the next day it arrived at Calais; whither the king sent orders to the governor, to put the duke to death privately.

“The day after, the duke’s friends and associates, the Earls of Arundel and Warwick, Lord Cobham, and several other persons of distinction, were invited to the council, and there arrested upon a charge of high treason.

“The king’s evil counsellors were afraid that some disturbances would arise from these proceedings.

proceedings. The king issued a proclamation, declaring that the lords were accused of treason, and that they should be tried by their peers, on the 1st day of August. A bill was brought in to this purpose, and the lords were indulged with a delay till the 14th of September, to prepare answers to their impeachment.

“ The Duke of Gloucester was first named in the impeachment ; but his fate was pre-determined. He was smothered between two feather-beds, and a messenger was sent over from Calais, to inform the king, that he died of an apoplexy.

“ Thus died Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester, a prince worthy of the great stock from whence he sprung ; he was brave, open, and sincere, a true friend and well-wisher to his country ; but he was proud, passionate, and turbulent, ambitious of power, and fond of popularity ; by these qualities, he brought upon himself the envy of the king, and the hatred of the new made nobility ; but those of the old families honoured and regretted him, and the whole nation lamented his cruel and untimely fate.

“ The

“The Dukes of Lancaster and York, breathed nothing but resentment and revenge for this treatment of their brother ; they raised a body of men, and marched directly for London, where they were received by the citizens with open arms.

“The vigilance of the king and his counsellors had anticipated their intentions ; he had augmented the number of his guards, and was prepared for their reception. The princes were mortified to the highest degree, to find their nearest relations among the foremost of their opposers. The Duke of Exeter was Lancaster’s son-in-law ; the Earl of Rutland, the eldest son of York. The king employed the last named Lord to negotiate a treaty with his two uncles ; he assured them of the king’s repentance and contrition for his past actions ; he offered them a sincere reconciliation from the king ; and that they should preside over his councils, and wholly direct his future conduct. The Dukes yielded to this remonstrance, dismissed their adherents, and compromised their disputes with the king. The Earls of Arundel and Warwick, and the archbishop, were prosecuted with the utmost rigour, and the former was condemned and beheaded.

“The

“ The king committed a new series of errors and faults, he grew daily more unpopular ; he was always requiring more money, and dissipating it without any discretion.

“ The parliament chose a committee for inspecting into the abuses of the government, the whole authority of parliament was devolved upon the king, twelve peers, and six commoners, who were to reform every thing.

“ The first object that fell under the consideration of this committee, was the charge of Henry of Bolingbroke, Duke of Hereford, against Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, for having spoken treasonable and seditious words against the king, in a private conversation. A paper, containing the substance of this conversation, was read before the king and parliament, and by them referred to the committee.

“ The king and the committee decreed, that for want of sufficient proof, the dispute should be decided by single combat, according to the laws of chivalry. The 29th Day of April was fixed, and the lists were prepared at Coventry.

“ Great preparations were made, and many persons of distinction came from all parts to see

see this combat between two men of such high quality and character. Among others, the Earl of St. Pol, with many friends and followers; he brought over his lady and eldest child to visit Sir Roger de Clarendon, her brother. Lady Clarendon had lately brought a daughter to her husband, and these noble personages were sponsors to the child. After the baptism was over, the gentlemen went forward to attend the lists at Coventry.

“ On the day appointed, the king repaired to Coventry, attended with all his peers and officers of the field, followed by ten thousand men at arms, to prevent tumults and disturbances. He created the Duke of Albemarle high constable, and the Duke of Surry Lord Marshal for this occasion.

“ The Duke of Hereford, the challenger, first appeared, on a white courser richly caparisoned, and armed cap-a-pée, with his drawn sword in his hand.—The marshal demanded who he was? he answered, “ I am Henry of Lancaster, Duke of Hereford, come hither according, to my duty, against Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, a traitor to God, the king, and the realm.” The marshal received his oath that

that his quarrel was just and true. He then desired to enter the lists; which was granted. He sheathed his sword, seized his lance, passed the barrier, then alighted, and sat down in a chair placed at one end of the lists.

"As soon as he had taken his seat, the king came into the field with great pomp, attended by all his peers and followers, among whom were the Earl of St. Pol and Sir Roger de Clarendon. The king being seated in his chair of state, the king at arms proclaimed that none should presume to touch the lists, but such as were appointed by the Lord Marshal.—Then the herald pronounced these words aloud:

"Behold, here is Henry of Lancaster, Duke of Hereford, who has entered the lists to perform his duty against Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, on pain of being found false and recreant."

"Immediately after, appeared the Duke of Norfolk, completely armed, mounted upon a barbed horse, with his coat of arms of crimson velvet, embroidered with lions of silver. Having taken his oath, he entered the lists, exclaiming aloud, "God defend the right!" then alighting from his horse, he placed himself

in a chair of crimson velvet opposite to his antagonist.

"The marshal then measured their lances, delivered one to the challenger, and sent the other to the Duke of Norfolk. Proclamation was then made that they should prepare for the combat. They immediately mounted their horses, closed their beavers, and fixed their lances in the rests. The trumpets sounded a charge, and the combatants began their career: but before they could meet, the king threw down his warder, and the heralds interposed between them.*

"The king ordered their lances to be taken away; they returned to their chairs, while the king retired with his council, declaring he wished to determine their fate without bloodshed.

"After some pause, and a solemn suspense and expectation, Sir John Mowbray returned to

* Oh ! when the king did throw his warder down,
His own life hung upon the staff he threw;
Then threw he down himself, and all their lives,
That by indictment, or by dint of sword
Have since miscarried under Bolingbroke.

Shakespeare, Henry iv. 2 part.

to the field by the king's command. Silence was proclaimed, and he pronounced this sentence, that forasmuch as both the appellant and defendant, had honourably appeared in the lists, ready and forward to engage in single combat, their courage was fully ascertained. That the king had decreed, by advice of his council and committee, that Henry, Duke of Hereford, should within fifteen days depart the kingdom, and go into exile for the space of ten years.

“ That Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, was banished for life, because he could not clear himself of the imputation, of having spoken treasonable and seditious words against the king's majesty.—Then proclamation was made, that no person should presume to intercede with the king in behalf of either party, on pain of incurring his majesty's displeasure.

“ After this, the dukes were obliged to swear, that they would never meet willingly, nor keep up any kind of intercourse in foreign countries, nor carry on any correspondence with Thomas Arundel, late Archbishop of Canterbury.

“ After this extraordinary scene, the spectators retired murmuring, and discontented with every part of the conclusion of it.

“ The

“The Earl of St. Pol had waited on the king before, and had been graciously received; but he was so disgusted by the arbitrary and unjust and behaviour of the king, that he resolved to go no more to court; as he returned home with Sir Roger De Clarendon, he made the following observations :

“Nothing can be more arbitrary, unjust, and absurd, than the sentence we have just heard pronounced, with so much form and ridiculous solemnity.—The Duke of Hereford, the first prince of the blood, driven into exile without being charged with any offence, and the Duke of Norfolk banished for life, without being allowed to prove his own innocence !”

“You are right, my dear brother,” answered Sir Roger, “but we must not utter our thoughts to any but each other.

“The truth is, the king hates one of them, and fears both, and he is glad of a pretence to drive them both out of the kingdom. I fear he will have cause to repent of these proceedings.

“Hereford is not a man to receive injuries without resenting them, he will wait for an opportunity to revenge them.”

“The

The same opinion was held by many other men; they said little, but feared much. All men were surprised that the Duke of Lancaster could bear this injury patiently; he seemed to have lost his former spirit, and submitted to the king's will and pleasure.

The Duke of Hereford, to outward appearance, bore his fate with resignation. When he waited on the king to take his leave, he behaved with so much respect and submission, that the king remitted four years of his exile. He went to Paris, where he met with a favourable reception from the French king, and was likely to have married the only daughter of the Duke of Berry; but the match was defeated by the interference of King Richard, who sent over the Earl of Salisbury to represent to the king, that Hereford had been guilty of treasonable practices, and would never be permitted to return to his own country. This was a fresh injury to the Duke, which rankled in his bosom, and which he was likely to remember, when time should serve.

The Duke of Norfolk was overwhelmed with grief and despondency at his sentence; he retired to Germany, and afterwards went to Venice, where he died shortly after.

The Earl of St. Pol would fain have persuaded Sir Roger de Clarendon to leave England, and settle in France ; but such was his love to his country, and his attachment to the king, (however unjustly treated by him) that he could not be prevailed on. Lady Clarendon was likewise unwilling to be separated from her family ; they lived in uninterrupted friendship with them. St. Pol and his lady returned home ; but bade their friends remember, they had a resource in their friendship, in case they should incur the king's displeasure, or receive injuries from others.

The family of Calverly, lived in peace and harmony for several years. They saw the storm gathering, and retired to the shade ; where they enjoyed the conjugal and domestic happiness.

Mr. Clement Woodville was become so necessary to Lady Calverly, that he almost lived at Eglantine Bower. Edith and he lived in the enjoyment of the most pure and sacred friendship ; which she would not allow him to carry beyond the bounds she had prescribed.—On his part it was not so undisturbed. Every offer of marriage (and Edith had

had several) threw him into doubts, fears, and agitations. On these occasions, she was obliged to give him fresh assurances, and at length to give a solemn promise, that she would marry him, or no man.

Sir John Calverly, and Sir Roger De Clarendon, were on a visit to Lady Calverly; she told them what Clement had lately done for her service, and added, "I am so much obliged to him, that I know not how I shall ever make him amends." Sir Roger smiled, Edith blushed, Clement looked down.—Sir John observed them all; a ray of light struck upon his mind, and discovered every thing to him in an instant. When he was alone with Sir Roger, he asked him, why he smiled.—Sir Roger doubted whether to disclose the secret or not; he smiled, and was silent.—"Spare yourself the trouble of speaking," said Sir John, "I see clearly the reward that Clement aspires to; I only wish to know whether Edith encourages him."—"She does," said Sir Roger, "but they both depend on Lady Calverly's will and pleasure."—"You are sure of this, brother?"—"I am, Sir John, I discovered it accidentally,

“and promised not to disclose it, but your sagacity has at length discovered it. To say truth, I am only surprised you did not do it sooner.”

“It is well, I am satisfied.—Edith should have told me of it; but to punish her, I will let things take their course, and they shall not have my consent, till they ask for it.”—They both concealed what they knew, and the lovers continued in the same state of suspense; but a few months after, a circumstance happened to change their situation.

Lady Calverly was seized with a fit of a paralytic kind; Edith was greatly alarmed, and Clement's support became necessary and consolatory to her. Lady Calverly revived, and was sensible of their tender attentions. She felt the love of a parent for Clement, added to her own obligations to him. As he was supporting her in his arms, she said, “Clement, you are to me as a child, what can I do to show my gratitude?”—Clement seized the favourable moment, “My dear lady, there is a reward in your power, that would over-pay all that I can do or think, yet I have not served you from interested motives only.” “What is that reward?”—“Oh! madam, can
“you

“ you not guess?”—“ Speak out, Clement, this
 “ is no time for reserves.”—“ Oh! madam,
 “ pardon my presumption:—I love your fair
 “ daughter, Edith; give me her hand, and
 “ make me your son indeed, as I am already,
 “ in affection and duty.”—While he was
 speaking, Edith entered the room; she heard
 what he said, and, trembling, waited for her
 mother’s answer.

Lady Calverly lifted up her eyes to heaven:
 she said, “ At this dread moment, pride and
 “ vanity are no more.—I expect daily that
 “ awful summons, which reduces all hu-
 “ man creatures to a level.—I go to that other
 “ world, where merit only will be distinguished;
 “ let me distinguish it here, and atone for my
 “ former errors in judgment?—Edith my
 “ best daughter, do you love Clement, and ap-
 “ prove his love for you?”—Edith, kneeled to
 her mother, and kissed her hand, “ My dear
 “ mother, our hearts have long been united;
 “ but we both depend entirely on you, and
 “ would not take any step without your consent
 “ and approbation.”—“ Let me then unite
 “ your hands—God bless the union!—I shall
 “ die happy, to see my daughter in the care

“ and protection of so good a man—God bless
 “ my children !”

An affecting pause ensued ; in which all three felt more than could be expressed. Clement first spoke, and made his acknowledgments in broken accents ; Edith did the same. Lady Calverly recovered her voice, “ Let me
 “ chide you as a pair of naughty ones.—You
 “ would have delayed your happiness till
 “ after my death.—You would have deprived
 “ me of the sight of it ; but I will hope
 “ to see and enjoy it, in spite of your intentions. Life is uncertain, mine is particularly
 “ so. I will trust nothing to the future. Clement, write to Sir John, desire him to come
 “ over immediately ; I will settle all my
 “ worldly affairs, and have no future cares nor
 “ fears ; then I will devote the remainder of
 “ my days to the care of my soul, and to the
 “ duties of a christian.”—Clement obeyed her orders ; he wrote to Sir John directly, and sent it by a messenger, requesting Sir John to return with him, and to bring with him the priest, who was used to attend Lady Calverly.

Sir John came accordingly with all speed, for he understood that his mother must be indisposed ;

posed; he found her much better than his fears had represented. She told him all that had passed, and asked his consent to the marriage. He gave it freely, but reproached the lovers tenderly for keeping him a stranger to their engagement. The following evening they received the nuptial benediction in Lady Calverly's apartment, to the great satisfaction of all the parties concerned; and Edith gave her hand to Clement without any scruple, or any foolish affectation of reluctance to receive the first wish of her heart. Clement was all joy, rapture, and gratitude; Lady Calverly was greatly recovered, and rejoiced with her children.

The next day she settled all her worldly affairs; she gave Eglantine Bower, and the estate around it, to Clement and Edith; her jointure was to revert to Sir John; and her ready money she divided between Sir John, Lady Trussel, and Lady Clarendon. After the will was executed, she spent several hours with the priest in private, after which she saw her children, and conversed with them cheerfully. After spending a few days there, Sir John and the priest returned to Calverly Hall.

The tidings from the Bower were reported by letter to all the other parts of the family. Sir Roger and Lady Clarendon rejoiced with the new-married pair ; but lady Truffel was angry and mortified, and declared she never would enter Eglantine Bower ; which did not greatly affect the owners of it.

Lady Calverly lived three years after the marriage of her Edith ; she held in her arms two of her children, and daily blessed and prayed for the parents. Clement was her son, and servant ; her steward, and manager ; her right hand, and her staff to lean upon.

“ An interval of peace and happiness was enjoyed by all the parts of this virtuous and respectable family. If men would make a fair estimate of the good and evil they receive in this world, they would always find the good predominant.

Sir Roger de Clarendon's happiness was disturbed by his apprehensions for the king, and the fear of public commotions. His illegal and arbitrary conduct, his extravagance and absurdity, rendered him contemptible in the eyes of his people. The nation turned their eyes and hearts upon the Duke of Hereford ; his injuries
were

were great, but they were soon to be augmented.

John of Ghent, Duke of Lancaster, died in February 1399. He ought to have been succeeded by his son, Henry of Hereford. By the king's own patent he was empowered to sue, by his attorney, for any money or lands descending to him by right of inheritance during his absence.

Richard was so much alarmed at the prospect of so great addition of the power and influence of Hereford, that he was moved to commit an act of the greatest injustice and cruelty. He knew he had injured and provoked his kinsman; he feared his return to England, and his resentment there. He was always in want of money, and the parliament was not so ready as formerly to grant it, being assured of his indiscretion and prodigality. He was tempted by the riches of his uncle, and resolved to seize on them for himself. The committee at Westminster were tutored to his wishes; they declared that the letters patent were illegal, and they revoked them accordingly. The estates of the Duke of Lancaster were seized for the king's use; Henry Bower, the attorney for the Duke of Hereford,

was, for having acted according to the duty of his profession, accused of treason, and illegally condemned to be hanged, drawn, quartered and beheaded: some few honest men dared approach the king, and, with the most humble supplications, implored him to spare the life of an innocent man; it was with the utmost difficulty they prevailed on the king to pardon him.

This transaction was so arbitrary, unjust, and scandalous, that it seemed to set all laws at defiance. By the death of the Duke of Lancaster, Richard thought himself freed from all kind of restraint; he plunged into all kinds of riot and debauchery, and profligate profusion; he squandered away his uncle's riches, and still was craving for more. He extorted loans under the name of *Benevolence*, and used all manner of means to gain money. The people murmured, and the nobility held councils together, and consulted on the measures to be taken to restrain the king's injustice and prodigality. The malcontents made private overtures to Henry, Duke of Lancaster; they solicited him to return to England, and head the opposition; they promised to raise a powerful
army,

army, and hazard their lives and fortunes with him, and for his service.

The duke was well pleased with these advances; but he received them with great caution, resolving to wait for further proofs of their sincerity and discretion.

The Earl of Marche, whom the king had declared presumptive heir of the crown, had been appointed the king's lieutenant in Ireland, and was soon after killed in a skirmish with the natives. Richard was so exasperated by the death of his favourite kinsman, that he determined to go over to Ireland, and revenge his death in person. He assembled a numerous army for this service, which was enlisted and paid by such violent and illegal exactions, as completed the disgust and resentment of the nation against him.

On this occasion, Sir Roger de Clarendon offered his services to the king, who gave him a company as before. He was mortified, and yet would not refuse it: he said to his superior officer: "I believe the king has sworn never to prefer me; but if he wants my services, I would offer them even as a private soldier."

This was reported to the king, and he was af-

fectcd by it; but the Duke of Exeter, Sir Roger's sworn enemy, was with him; and, though raised above any competition with him, he took pride and pleasure in keeping him in a low station, and intercepted every degree of preferment.

The king and his army marched to Bristol, and there waited for a fair wind. During this interval, he sent a pursuivant to the Earl of Northumberland, commanding him to raise forces, and join him immediately. The earl excused himself, as being obliged to defend the Scots marches. The king repented his refusal highly; he proclaimed the earl, and all his adherents, traitors; and ordered his estates to be sequestered, and his money seized for his own use. This very imprudent step gave a fair pretence to Northumberland for his after conduct; and, perhaps, provoked him to revolt, and join with the Duke of Lancaster.

The king embarked at Bristol; after a quick passage he landed at Waterford, and marched immediately against the Irish at Ulster, whom he defeated; and gained many advantages. Many of the petty princes sued for peace, and he proceeded in his march; and was
in

in a fair way to have subdued the whole kingdom, when he was recalled by affairs that concerned him more nearly at home.

As soon as the Duke of Lancaster was informed of the king's departure from England, he sent over some trusty emissaries to acquaint his friends of his intention to come over, as soon as they should be prepared to receive him. He concealed his design from the French king, and obtained from him a safe conduct to visit the Duke of Bretagne, his kinsman. He went to Nantes, where he hired three vessels, and embarked with the deprived archbishop, his nephew, son and heir to the late Earl of Arundel, Sir Thomas Erpingham, and others, not an hundred followers in the whole. They cruised along the eastern coast, touched at different places, founding the inclination of the people as they passed along; at length they landed at Ravenspurg, in Yorkshire.

The duke made a public declaration, that he was come over only to claim his right of inheritance to his father's titles and estates, which the king illegally detained from him. As soon as it was known he was landed, he was joined by the Lords Rofs and Willoughby,
Darcy

Darcy and Beaumont. They proceeded with him to Doncaster, where they were joined by the Earl of Northumberland, and his son, the Earl of Westmorland, and a numerous body of gentlemen, with all their friends, vassals, and dependants.

The Duke of York, the guardian of the kingdom, summoned all the king's friends and counsellors to concert measures for the defence of the kingdom. They called together all the military tenants of the crown, and required their services. The majority of them refused to serve against the Duke of Lancaster, who had been unjustly banished, and deprived of his lawful inheritance.

The Duke of York, finding it impossible to withstand the torrent of Lancaster's popularity, broke his staff of office, and retired.

The king's wicked ministers, the Earl of Wiltshire, Bushy, Green, and Bagot, dreading the resentment of the people, fled to Bristol, and intended to embark for Ireland.

The Duke of Lancaster's army by this time was increased to twelve thousand men; he marched forward to the capital, and was joined by many others in every county he marched through,

through, and was received in London, with every mark of triumph and exultation.

Having secured the city of London in his interest, the duke directed his march towards Bristol, where he expected to meet some resistance, having heard that his uncle York was at Berkley Castle, in Gloucestershire, where he had raised forces to join the king at his landing from Ireland. Lancaster sent messengers to his uncle, requesting an interview, where he would satisfy him of the justice of his proceedings.

They met in the chapel of Berkley Castle, and had a private conference; after which York joined his nephew's army, and every place and person submitted to them, till they came to the castle at Bristol, which was fortified, and defended by Sir Peter Courtney, assisted by the Earl of Wiltshire, Sir John Busby, and Sir Henry Green.

Lancaster invested the place, and carried it in four days: they surrendered at discretion. The same day the Earl of Wiltshire and his two companions were beheaded without any form of trial; the people were clamorous for their death, and Lancaster was not unwilling
to

to gratify them. Sir William Bagot escaped to Chester, where he embarked for Ireland, and was the first person to acquaint the king of the proceedings of the Duke of Lancaster.

The king at first slighted these tidings; but he was urged by the nobles who attended him, to return immediately. He sent over the Earl of Salisbury to raise forces in Wales, and the king promised to follow him in six days. It is said that he was detained longer by frivolous delays, which proved the destruction of his affairs.

Salisbury had raised an army of forty thousand men; but, as the king did not arrive at the time appointed, they soon began to murmur, and, after waiting a week longer, they concluded he had met with some disaster; and, refusing to wait any longer, they dispersed, and returned to their several habitations.

The king had carried with him to Ireland the eldest sons of his uncles of York, Lancaster and Gloucester, as hostages for the behaviour of their friends. The son of York was now one of his chief favourites; but those of Lancaster and Gloucester were committed close prisoners to the castle of Trim before the king embarked

embarked for England: He landed at Milford-haven, and proceeded to Carmarthen, where he received a particular detail of all his misfortunes.

Hitherto we have seen only his follies and errors; but he soon after became an object of pity and compassion. Never did any prince come to the crown with greater hopes, nor greater affection of his people: never did any prince so entirely lose them; he became, at last, an object of contempt and derision.—An awful lesson and warning to princes, how they give the rein to their passions and extravagancies, squander away the wealth of their people, and make shipwreck of their affections. The true character of princes will be known, certainly, after death; probably, during their lives. History gives proofs sufficient of this truth.

“Few good princes have come to untimely ends; history, however, does furnish us with some few instances. Alexander Severus is one; but he lived at a time when both the senate and army of Rome were become corrupt and degenerate, and they could not endure a virtuous prince. And this was owing to the wickedness of former tyrants, who continue to do

do mischief even after their death. Gordian, the younger, is another instance, who was a virtuous and most excellent prince, but, unfortunately, lived in an age so abominably corrupted by wicked emperors and tyrants, that there was no security for good princes. This also furnishes us with another inference, that princes can have no reliance upon wicked and corrupt men, and that it is their interest to select virtuous men for their servants, in whom only they can put confidence.

We will speak further on this subject in the conclusion of this work ; let us now return to the remainder of what can be gathered from history, concerning Sir Roger de Clarendon, and we will speak of public transactions, so far as he was concerned and connected with them.

Sir Roger de Clarendon, and Sir John Calverly, were among the most faithful adherents to K. Richard II. they exposed themselves to all kinds of dangers in his cause against the successful party, the Duke of Lancaster at their head ; but all opposition gave way before them. King Richard was advised, persuaded, and, at last, obliged, to resign his crown to his cousin, Henry of Lancaster.

Richard.

Richard was solemnly deposed in parliament, and Henry ascended the throne of England. He pretended a variety of claims to the crown, but was conscious of the fallacy of them all. His best claim, undoubtedly, was the unanimous requisition of the people; but this he would not plead. He was, according to the received notions of hereditary right, an usurper during the life of Richard; and this seems to have been his own opinion, as he soon after commanded, or connived at his death, the usual consequences of deposition. Henry IV. was crowned the 13th of October, 1399. Richard's death was declared in January 1400.

The manner of his death is variously related by different historians. His body was brought to London, and exposed to public view in St. Paul's church. As no marks of violence appeared on the body, it seems most probable that he was starved to death. Thus died the unfortunate Richard, in the thirty-third year of his age. He was buried at Langley, in Hertfordshire, but his body was afterwards removed by Henry V. to Westminster.

The friends and adherents of Richard were prosecuted with rigour by Henry. They conspired

spired against him privately; but the death of Richard broke and dispersed them. Sir John Calverly and Sir Roger de Clarendon retired to their families, and lived privately and quietly for some time. Lady Clarendon brought her husband three children, which she nursed herself, and sought no other happiness than her own house afforded; but she was always in fear of some unfortunate event to her beloved husband. Sir Roger was melancholy and desponding; his brother-in-law, Valeran, Count de St. Pol, endeavoured to engage him in a conspiracy to revenge the death of K. Richard; but his concern for the safety of his wife and children made him decline it, and he gave no offence to the government, yet could not avoid his unhappy fate.

In the year 1402, a report was circulated that K. Richard was alive; papers were affixed at the church doors affirming this, and reflecting upon the usurpation and tyranny of Henry. The king was so exasperated at these sarcasms, that he swore he would never pardon any person convicted of being the author of them. Sir Roger de Clarendon was apprehended on suspicion of being concerned in them; the rec-
tor

tor of Ware, the prior of Lawne, and nine Franciscan friars were apprehended at the same time. After a very slight examination, in which they all denied the charge, they were all hanged at Tyburn, without any trial or conviction. These securities increased the number of the mal-contents, and destroyed the opinion that had been conceived of the king's justice and clemency. Their fears were excited, and they began to find they had been mistaken in him.

Lady Clarendon was inconsolable for the loss of her husband ; her brother and sister Woodville visited and comforted her ; Clement offered his services to superintend her family. She was for some time inconsolable and almost distracted ; she would exclaim, " Now my dream " is fulfilled, the canopy is fallen upon my " head !—My husband's relation to the king " has been his destruction."—Edith, by degrees, made her sensible of the duty of resignation to the will of heaven ; time assisted her endeavours, and composed the widow's mind.

Within three years after Sir Roger's death, she buried her two sons, and her grief was renewed. They feared she would not recover
from

from the deep distress. The Woodvilles persuaded her to leave her house, and return with them to Eglantine Bower, where she recovered her health.

Her daughter Adela survived; she became her mother's best comforter; she resembled her in beauty and spirit. This lady is said to have been the ancestor of the family of Smythe, of Hill Hall, in the county of Essex.

Sir John Calverly was become obnoxious to the king; he listened to the reports against all the friends and adherents of King Richard. He wore a crown of thorns, and was always a slave to his fears and suspicions.

Sir John grew more and more attached to Clement Woodville, he settled his worldly affairs, and appointed him his sole executor, and the guardian of his children.—Clement and Edith were patterns of conjugal happiness, which was only interrupted by the misfortunes of their friends; they were blessed with many promising children.

The French hated the person and character of King Henry; Valeran, Count of St. Pol, persuaded them to assist him in a scheme to revenge the death of King Richard, and that of Sir Roger De Clarendon. He made a descent on
the

the Isle of Wight ; but was repulsed, and obliged to return.

The family of Percy were offended at the reserve and suspicion of the king ; they were affronted by his ingratitude to them ; they grew disaffected, and at length headed a rebellion. They solicited Sir John Calverly, and the Woodvilles to join them ; but their prudence, and their affection to their families, kept them steady in their allegiance to the reigning king, though they did not like his character nor conduct.—They were called upon on the king's behalf. Sir John Calverly answered the call, and commanded a company in the king's service. He behaved as became the son of Sir Hugh Calverly, and valiantly fighting, was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury, with many noble knights his companions, whose bodies were found on the field of battle, and buried at Shrewsbury.

Mr. Clement Woodville executed the office his friend and brother had assigned him, and was the father of his family ; he lived in a private manner, and gave offence to neither party.

Richard

Richard Woodville's family rose into notice and distinction in the following reign. From him descended the lady, who was afterwards married to Edward IV, and also Anthony Woodville, Earl of Rivers, one of the most accomplished men of his time, and the patron of literature ; and of men of genius in every department. King Henry IV. was a lively, active, and vigilant prince ; but conscious of the defects of his title, he was subject to incessant jealousies, cares and fears ; which, as some historians say, extended even to his eldest son. The prince retired from public notice, and lost himself in low company for a time ; but at length he emerged from the cloud that concealed him, and became a great and glorious king, our Henry V.

I have promised to give some further remarks on the untimely deaths of princes, in times nearer to our own, and instances, that are fresh in every one's memory.

All extremes of party spirit end in fanaticism and violent measures ; these are the causes of the strange events that are read of in modern history. Fanaticism caused the Sicilian Vespers, and the massacre of St. Bartholomew.

Fana-

Fanaticism caused the death of Henry III. of France, and there was in the circumstances of it, a kind of retribution that deserves our attention. He was killed by James Clement, a Jacobin friar, on the anniversary of the same day, and in the same chamber, where he had seventeen years before, (with his brother Charles IX.) signed the fatal sentence of the massacre of the Huguenots.—Both the brothers were seen with carabines in their hands, shooting at the unhappy victims, who plunged into the Seine to avoid their fate.

Charles's disorder and death is still more remarkable; he was pursued by unceasing remorse for his cruelty and injustice: he could get no rest. He complained to Ambrose Paré, his surgeon; "Ambrose, I know not what has happened to me, but I feel that my body and mind are at enmity with each other, as if I had a violent fever; sleeping or waking, the murdered Huguenots seem always before my eyes, with ghastly faces, and weltering in their blood. I wish the innocent and the helpless had been spared."

"It is said, that his blood transpired through every pore in his body, and he died in misery

and terror ; a warning to all times, and all people. The queen-mother, who was the first mover of these horrible events, was apparently punished, by the death of her four sons without male issue, and the descent of the crown to another very distant branch of the royal family, descended from the Dukes of Bourbon.

Fanaticism was the instrument of the death of Henry IV. of France ; perhaps there might be other concealed causes, for it is a problem to this day, whether Ravallac had accomplices or not. The Duke of Sully gives many obscure hints, but seems, as if afraid to speak out.

Henry IV. was one of the first of men, and of kings ; but princes, like other men, are composed of mixed qualities. His vices no otherwise affected his people, than by setting a bad example ; but they were their own punishment to himself ; they destroyed the peace of his family, and that of his own heart.—His virtues were truly royal ones ; he was the father of his people. His great and generous qualities were dispersed, like the light of the sun, through his whole kingdom, and even the remotest

most parts felt the influence of them ; they felt also the effects of his loss, which was irreparable.

Fanaticism drove Mary Queen of Scots out of her own kingdom, and into the toils of her enemies. Her crafty subjects ardently wished for her death, but had not the courage to effect it themselves ; however they guided the hands that struck the fatal blow.

Their descendants have taken great pains to white-wash the character of Mary, and to blacken that of Elizabeth ; but the daubing is of untempered mortar, and it will fall off again, and leave the original stains apparent. Mary's letters carry in them an internal evidence, that will always remain in impartial and unprejudiced minds.

“ Elizabeth was one of England's greatest and best princesses ; it owes her obligations that remain unto this day, and cannot be forgotten, while any sense of gratitude remains. Elizabeth's conduct, as a queen, may be defended. (I do not say as a private person.) The Catholics were a numerous body, nearly half the kingdom ; they looked up to Mary as the head of their party. They were always plotting

to dethrone Elizabeth, and set Mary in her place; they had, by their emissaries, several times attempted her life. Less provocations have often stood in lieu of reasons to justify the revenges of princes. Elizabeth's conduct may be called self-defence, without stretching the meaning of the word. Let us ask a few plain questions: Would she, who encouraged those who conspired against the crown and life of Elizabeth, have scrupled to take her life, had it been in her power? Did she scruple to join with those who assassinated her husband? Did she not wed his murderer?—Let those who are truly impartial, weigh these circumstances, and decide upon them.

The death of our Charles I. was an awful and unforeseen event, undesign'd by the people, and effected by a party of fanatics.—Here is another instance of the influence of fanaticism, a warning to kings and people to be on their guard against it: neither party ever thought of going the lengths they did; but they were led on insensibly, step by step, to those violent measures that produced the most fatal consequences. It is also a warning to kings, not to oppress, or dissemble with their people; and to

these last named, to beware how they break down the breach of peace and order, and let in the torrent of popular frenzy and violence.

After the death of Charles I. the republican party endeavoured to form a new government upon their principles. A bold, ambitious, and artful man mixed with their councils, and watched an opportunity to counteract their designs. He seized on the reins of government, held them firmly, and guided them wisely. He established his authority for his life, and endeavoured to entail it on his posterity; but this was frustrated.

Cromwell used fanaticism as his chief engine to govern the minds of men, and keep them in subjection. He did all things in the name of the Lord: whenever he hazarded any thing by some bold and dangerous step, like Mahomet, he called in supernatural assistance to enforce submission. When he dissolved the parliament, he exclaimed: "I have besought the Lord
"night and day, that he would rather slay me,
"than put me upon this work." Then, pointing to the speaker's mace, he bade the soldiers
"take away that bauble! you are no longer a
"parliament, the Lord has done with you."

Edmund Waller relates an interview with Cromwell, in which he was called away by some of his fanatical tools; he heard him say; "The Lord will reveal:—The Lord will "make known." Then, returning, he said: "Excuse me, cousin Waller, I must talk to "these men in their own language." This anecdote shews that he was not the dupe of fanaticism himself, but that he used it as his instrument to impose upon others.

At his death, the people were tired of fanaticism and of despotism, under the name of a republic; they wished ardently for the restoration of the laws and the constitution, and not merely for the king, any further than as he was bound to support their rights, liberties, and property; in maintaining which, they believed, the king would find his glory and happiness. They loved him, as being descended from their ancient princes; and hoped that, being educated in the school of adversity, he would govern them wisely, and love them as his children.

Never were greater expectations formed; never more effectually disappointed. Charles II. was ungrateful to God and man; unprincipled;
extra-

extravagant, profligate and abandoned; and, finally, a pensioner to the French king, to act as he directed, against the interest of his own country.

James II. though a bigot and a slave to Rome, was an honest and a better man than his brother; he acted from his principles, however erroneous they might be: Charles acted against principle, against the laws of nature and religion. It is worthy our remark that the restoration of the Stuart family should continue to be observed so long after they were expelled the throne and the country: the case is unparalleled in the records of history.

It was reserved for the eighteenth century of the christian æra, which boasts of its illumination and progress in philosophy, to give fresh instances of the untimely death of virtuous princes, and to shew proofs of the influence of a new kind of fanaticism, which cannot be derived from the abuses of religion, but runs counter to religion, laws, civilization, and humanity. Let us now speak of the untimely death of princes in our days.

The death of Peter II. Emperor of Russia, is an event that may be spoken of with more
L 4 freedom

freedom and certainty in the next age, than it can in the present. By all that can be gathered from imperfect information, it seems that he was an unprincipled and unworthy prince, and that Russia has derived many advantages from his death. Whether those who effected it are to be exculpated, must be referred to another tribunal, where they must answer for it.

In our time, Gustavus III. of Sweden was assassinated; a prince of first-rate virtues and abilities. How far he is to be praised or blamed for altering the constitution of his country, I leave to those more competent to decide; but he is certainly to be reckoned in the list of virtuous princes who came to untimely ends.

Leopold II. Emperor of Germany, died suddenly; the manner admits of a doubt whether he came fairly to his end. His character is very respectable; he had great virtues, and few abatements; his death was a general loss to Europe: his wife died of grief for her illustrious and worthy husband. His family are very promising; and, it is hoped, will repair the loss of their illustrious parents.

The murder of Louis XVI. of France is the most extraordinary and unparalleled event
that

that is to be read of in the annals of history. He was almost the only king we have heard of, that was willing, and even forward, to reform those errors in government, which, yet, did not originate from him, but was a part of his inheritance from his forefathers; which led to that unhappy end, which he least deserved than any of them.

After having granted all that they could ask or desire: after having sworn to support the new constitution they had framed, and conformed to it in every respect, he was treated in the most disrespectful and injurious manner; he was imprisoned, degraded, insulted, and, finally, murdered.

The whole nation are stigmatised with the guilt of this atrocious action; but the impartial and unprejudiced part of mankind, will draw the line of distinction between those men who effected the revolution, and framed the first constitution; and those who overturned it, and trampled upon all laws, divine and human. Impartiality will not deny that a reformation was become necessary in France: how will those, who dare deny it, justify the revolution in England in 1688?

The

The late events have not only ruined France, but all Europe is injured by them. They have hurt the sacred cause of liberty; they have put weapons into the hands of her enemies, who will presume to assert, that mankind are unworthy and incapable of the trust. The consequences of the late abuses of it are too many, and too various, to be spoken of; they will affect all times and all people.

Let us, however, not too hastily stigmatize the whole nation of France; let us not believe that they concurred in the cruel actions of the last, and the present year; they may yet, by some unforeseen event, redeem the honour of their country, and recover their own privileges.

It was a faction of bold, ignorant, flagitious men, who associated together to oppose the constitution, the laws, and the king; and to overturn all kinds of government. They seduced the populace to espouse their party, by holding out the word *equality* as a bait to catch them, and then keep them under by the worst kind of despotism. They usurped the sovereign power and authority; and, by the farce of a mock

mock trial, poorly acted, condemned, sentenced, and, finally, murdered their lawful king.

They have gone still further: they have cast off their allegiance to God, as well as to their laws and their king; they have set all religion at defiance. They have set up their idol *equality*, instead of the Supreme Being of beings, and have obliged all men to worship the paper image which they have set up, and which the winds will soon scatter away from the face of the earth.

An eminent Arabian writer has given the following sentence: "God never changes the prosperous state of any nation, till that nation is first changed in itself." By this rule, we may expect heavy judgments to fall upon a nation, which, by its irreligion, cruelty, and violence, has made itself obnoxious to all the nations in Europe.

We may even pronounce, both from reason and from scripture, that its present government "is not of God, and, therefore, it cannot stand."

From history, sacred and profane, we learn, that nations have been punished for national offences: that, when the measure of their iniquity

quity was full, the judgments of heaven have been poured out upon them. Some years ago, a Frenchman and an Englishman were disputing on the everlasting topics of the glory and happiness of their respective countries; the Englishman boasted of the victories of Cressy, Poitiers, and Agincourt, and that Henry V. was crowned King of France; which was more than France could say.—The Frenchman said, “that France
 “had given kings to England; that her prin-
 “ces were descended from William the Nor-
 “man, a bastard, and an usurper.” “And
 “when,” said the Englishman, “shall we see
 “such things happen again; when shall a king
 “of England march to Paris?” “When our
 “sins shall exceed yours,” was the answer.

People are apt to ascribe remarkable events to second causes, forgetting that human events are regulated by superior wisdom, and that partial evils may become productive of universal good.

The terrible exclamation “His blood be
 “on us, and on our children,” was fulfilled in a manner so strikingly remarkable, that it remains incontrovertible to all times, and all nations. The prophecies of our Lord concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, were strictly and
 literally

literally fulfilled, infomuch that one stone was not left upon another. The miseries of the Jews, during the siege of Jerufalem, were such as strike every reader with horror, and with awe. The difperſion of the Jews became a ſtanding miracle, and proof of the truth of the Chriſtian religion to every one who is willing to be convinced of it.

There are alſo many prophecies remaining to be fulfilled, and ſome that bear no very diſtant alluſion to the preſent times, and to thoſe which are preſumed to be approaching. Thoſe who ſearch the ſcriptures merely from worldly motives, will not find their time ſpent unprofitably; thoſe, who read them from ſuperior ones, will find all that they ſeek for.

The hiſtorical anecdotes, interſperſed through the whole of this work, are full of inferences to all orders and degrees of people: to princes, to avoid diſſimulation, oppreſſion, and injuſtice; to beware of evil counſellors, and fawning ſycophants, and to liſten to thoſe who tell them truth, and to be certain that thoſe men love them beſt, who hazard their diſpleaſure to ſerve them: to the nobles, to reſpect themſelves, if they expect others to reſpect them;

them ; and to beware of using deception and imposition on their king, lest they bring punishment upon him and themselves ; and to make the good of their country their first object : to those in public offices, to practise strict integrity and assiduity, and not to embezzle the wealth of the nation : to men in private stations, that family harmony and peace is the greatest happiness mankind are permitted to taste in this world, and that it is found the most pure and unallayed in the lower stations of life, who enjoy a competency : to those who are obliged to practise useful arts and trades, to avoid imitating the luxuries, follies and vices of their superiors, and to practise honesty, frugality, and content : to the people at large, submission to their lawful prince, to the laws, and to the magistrates, as to those who are placed in authority under them, “ and to learn and labour “ to gain their own livelihood, and to do their “ duty in that state of life unto which it hath “ pleased God to call them ;” to shun all those who would seduce them to worship the idol *Equality*, which, if it could be introduced, would reduce them to indolence and despondency : that a true and regular subordination

is

is what makes all orders and degrees of men stand in need of each other, and stimulates them to exercise their courage, industry, activity, and every generous quality, that supports a state and government.

Our great Poet has expressed this truth in the following words :

—Heaven doth divide
 The state of man in divers functions,
 And divers parts doth keep in one consent,
 Congruing in a full and natural close
 Like perfect music.—So work the honey-bees,
 Creatures that, by a rule of nature, teach
 The art of order to a peopled kingdom.
 They have a *King*, and officers of forts ;
 While some like magistrates correct at home ;
 Others, like merchants, venture trade abroad ;
 Others, like soldiers, armed with their stings,
 Make booty of the summer's velvet buds,
 Which pillage they, with merry march, bring home
 To the tent-royal of their emperor ;
 Who, throned in his majesty, surveys
 The singing masons, building roofs of gold ;
 The civil citizens storing up the honey ;
 The poor mechanic porters crowding in
 Their heavy burthens at his narrow gates ;
 The sad-eyed justice, with his furlow trim,
 Delivering to the executioner
 The plunderer, and the lazy yawning drone.

The present times afford sufficient matter for reflexion, to all orders and degrees of people. Writers will mix their opinions with the subjects they treat of; but how cautious ought they to be of what they convey to the public, lest poison should be mixed with the food that is offered.—Every one is answerable for the effects of their works. The author of this, has been careful to avoid any noxious ingredient in the present undertaking; any thing that can deceive or mislead the reader, or that can give pain to herself in the awful hour of her dissolution, when worldly praise or censure will be to her as nothing.

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